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14 April 1981

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CHARLES ADDRESSES HYDRO RESOURCES MEETING IN DOMINICA

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Mar 81 p 13

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Tuesday, (CANA)--A three-day Caribbean hydro resources seminar opened here today with complaints of a lack of data on which to base development plans and a commitment to strengthen the industrial sector.

Ainsley Elliott, a senior official of the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) told the opening session two factors constrained the development of hydro resources within the region--"The complete lack of data on which to base developmental plans" and "The general scarcity of trained personnel who will need to be involved in the resource assessment and development programmes".

Mr. Elliott, deputy director of the Project Design and Analysis Division of the CDB, added: "The fact is that while the significant micro hydro resource potential is readily apparent...questions concerning the quantity of water actually flowing and for how many months of the year remain largely to be answered.

"Generally, in other words, it is true to say that the hydro power resources of several countries of the region have not been properly and completely assessed".

In opening the workshop Prime Minister Eugenia Charles spoke of her Government's effort in developing its hydro potential, which she said could richly assist in the overall development of the island.

A lot of the future of Dominica depends on the full development of the country's hydro resources she told participants, adding: "The mini hydro scheme will be looked on as something of vital importance to us because...it is the quickest and least expensive method of bringing electricity to our eastern coast".

She noted that for years "we have been talking of extending electricity to our eastern coast...and yet right there in the east we have the potential to be able to give to the people electricity.

"A mini hydro scheme can develop into something much larger than just a mini hydro scheme", she said, pointing out that there will be a time when the whole island will have electricity.

"We are determined in Dominica that though agriculture is something we are going to press on with in the development of the island, we are quite sure that with the

development of hydro we will be able to see the day when industry will not be far second to agriculture and in particular agro-industry", she said.

The seminar has been organised by the CDB's Technology and Energy Unit, the Dominica Government and the Appropriate Technology Institute (ATI).

Participants are drawn from the Windward Islands, Guyana, Jamaica, Colombia, and Britain. Discussions will focus on data collection, regional hydro potential, and national experiences.

CSO: 3025

BRIEFS

RECEIPT OF OIL SHIPMENT--Guatemala has received 400,000 barrels of oil from Mexico and Venezuela under a special agreement signed by those two nations with the Central American countries. [Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 17 Mar 81 PA]

CSO: 3010

SHEARER DISCUSSES ENERGY MATTERS WITH MEXICAN ENVOY

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 81 p 2

[Text]

Energy supplies and prices were among the matters discussed on Tuesday by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, and Dr. Federico Urruchua, new Mexican Ambassador to Jamaica.

Dr. Urruchua was making his first call on the Deputy Prime Minister having arrived in Jamaica on Monday. He presented Mr. Shearer with a letter from the Foreign Minister of Mexico, as well as copies of his letters of credence for this, his first ambassadorial posting.

The discussion on energy took place in the context of the joint Mexico/Venezuela agreement on oil supplies to nine Cen-

tral American and Caribbean states, including Jamaica, under special financial arrangements, according to the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Appreciation

Mr. Shearer expressed appreciation to the new Ambassador for Mexico's initiative in this area of co-operation. There was discussion, also, on aspects of the repayment schedules in the agreement, as well as about areas of trade.

Mr. Shearer and Dr. Urruchua also discussed issues, including the recently announced heads of agreement between Belize, Guatemala and the U.K. Both men wel-

comed the agreement as instrumental in reducing tension in an important area of the region.

In welcoming Dr. Urruchua the Jamaican Foreign Minister recalled the long-standing friendship between Jamaica and Mexico and said he hoped the envoy's tour of duty would be a successful one.

On his part, Dr. Urruchua expressed the desire to improve the friendship and pledged to work toward achieving new levels of warmth and co-operation between the two countries.

He presented his credentials to the Governor General, the Most Hon. Florizel Glasspole on Wednesday.

BRIEFS

ENERGY, COAL, OIL--The World Bank directorate yesterday approved a \$6.5-million loan to Panama primarily for energy and oil development programs and for coal research at Bocas Del Toro Province. Feasibility studies on the electrification of transportation, the use of natural forest resources for energy, solar energy and the regulation of energy consumption will be conducted. International technical assistance will be provided to set the basis for a national energy plan. Professionals will be trained and laboratory equipment and scientific literature will be purchased. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 23 Mar 81 pp 1, A-8 PA]

CSO: 3010

DEVELOPMENT MINISTER ON SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Willemstad AMIGOE in English 19 Mar 81 p 7

[Text]

PARAMARIBO (SNA) - The search for alternative sources of energy by both the developed and developing countries by the fear of rising oil prices, has become a major pre-occupation and Suriname is no less relentless in its efforts.

At least this was how the Suriname minister of development Dr Herman Adhin sounded at a press conference here on March 14 while giving an account of the stewardship of his ministry during its first year. Dr Adhin presenting a brochure to the news conference in which he catalogued the work done by his ministry during the year said that their efforts for alternative sources of energy was a sustained one in the hope of realising their economic goals.

He said that the government's pet project, the hydro-electric dam in the western part of the country had received major attention and he listed it as one that was given a big push during the year. The project is to be constructed in two phases. The feasibility study of the project was financed by the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) with the World Bank acting as the executing agency which was completed in 1978. Since then a number of activities took place.

Three of the more important ones were the collection of

additional data for the foundation of the dam, the construction of 200 kilometer access road to the project site and the completion of three ecological studies. According to the minister, the feasibility study showed the project to be feasible and flexible for different stages of implementation. Dr Adhin said the energy generated in the first phase will be used mainly to meet import demands in Suriname. The first phase of the project is expected to cost dir. 500 million (US). Last year the government established a Kabeleto authority as an independent agency to supervise the construction and operation of the project. He disclosed that more than 25 contractors have tendered for the construction of the dam.

During the year funding of the project was discussed with the World Bank, the Inter American Development Bank (IDB) the European Development Fund (EDF) the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) and the Dutch and Brazilian governments. Reaction by these agencies and governments were positive and encouraging, he added. He also told of efforts to set-up mini-hydro projects and already studies have started on them.

In addition to these, other areas being tapped as alternative sources are biogas, wood, the use of charcoal. To press home the

point for the need for alternative sources of energy in the country, he cited the oil bills of the last two years. In 1979 the total amount of oil imported was 8.25 million barrels at a cost of dir. 95 million (US) the cost went up to dir. 180 million last year... nearly double. He added that this was enough evidence that the country needs to find alternative sources of energy. He was hopeful that oil will be found in Suriname and he told of an agreement the government had with the Gulf Oil Company of the United States, the work of the state-oil commission in the drive to find petroleum in the country.

Dr Adhin did not give details but he was confident that oil would be found in commercial quantities which he added would be a blessed day for the country. The oil exploration, he said is to take place on both off and on-shore. But the minister was not only concerned with energy problems of the country. He also touched on other areas of development, the bridging of the Suriname River, bauxite, aluminium and alumina production, which were given major push during the year, while the development of the copper, gold and cement industries were given in his words "medium push".

Dr Adhin also told of the various international contacts made by his ministry and added that these will all serve Suriname well in the future.

TRINTOC TO DRILL THREE EXPLORATORY OFFSHORE GAS WELLS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 6 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] Trinidad and Tobago Oil Company (Trintoc) is spending (TT) \$65 million on its own to drill three exploratory gas wells off Trinidad's north coast, using expertise of the Brazilian State-owned company, Petro Bras.

The drilling is being done by Santa Fe's semi-submersible drilling rig, Blue Water No. 3. It is being shared between Tenneco and Trintoc. This is the first time that Trintoc has embarked on an offshore project on its own.

Yesterday, media personnel were taken on a tour of the platform and rig to observe the operations on the first of the three wells being drilled, 40 miles off Maracas beach--the nearest land point.

Drilling of the 8,600 ft. well began 16 days ago in water depth of 535 feet in the area known as Block 9.

According to Trintoc's Managing Director, Mr. Walton James, it will be some 45 days--from the start of drilling to the completion of testing--before the production rate is known, as well as the quantity of gas reserve in place.

Significant Step

The second well, which will be located three miles northwest of the first well, will be drilled to 15,000 feet. Being deeper, production result will take about 120 days.

The third well will be drilled to 9,000 feet, and production results will take between 45 to 50 days, he said.

After observing the operations, the Minister of energy and Energy-based Industries, Mr. Errol Mahabir, who headed the tour party, told newsmen: "What is taking place here represents another significant step in the development of the petroleum industry."

He explained that the present operations in Block 9 represented a major departure from past policy.

When the acreages were given out in 1979, he recalled, Cabinet had agreed that Block 9 should not be given out to any firm. Trintoc was the only local bidder for that area.

Cabinet, he said, had decided that in the light of the Government retaining Block 9, the signature bonus it got from Mobil--(US) \$20 million--when a licence was granted to the firm to operate in the L-shaped Block, would be utilised for drilling in the area. And that Trintoc should be used as the agent to drill on behalf of the Government.

However, Mr. Mahabir said, Trintoc took certain steps which caused the Government to review its position with respect to the bonus money for drilling.

Trintoc entered into a one-year agreement with Petro Bras, which required the State-owned Brazilian firm to supply technical personnel to drill the three wells in Block 9.

As a result, the Government reversed its decision of 1979, and gave a licence to Trintoc to operate in the area. As such, Trintoc has to pay a signature bonus as any other company.

It was agreed that the bonus to be paid shortly by Trintoc--\$3 million--be equivalent to the bonus which the company had put in with its bid.

Signing the licence and payment of the bonus to Government would take place shortly, Mr. Mahabir said.

At the briefing, it was revealed that this is the first time that Trintoc has embarked on an offshore project on its own.

More Confidence

It was also significant, said Mr. Mahabir, that the operation represented the first type of joint venture between State-owned Trintoc of Trinidad and Tobago and State-owned Petro Bras, of Brazil.

Based on surveys done, the Block 9 area is said to be heavy with gas-bearing sands.

Production of the three wells, according to the Minister, would identify further substantial gas reserves to the already substantial proven reserves, thus firming up confidence for gas utilisation industries, and more specifically, for the proposed LNG (Liquified Natural Gas) project.

Trintoc's Chairman, Mr. Andrew Rose, explained that one of the reasons for using foreign expertise was because Trintoc hoped to transfer some of that technology into its system by having local personnel work alongside Petro Bras personnel.

The agreement also provides for local personnel to be trained at Petro Bras laboratories in Brazil.

Petro Bras is one of the top 17 petroleum companies in the world.

Mr. Rose said Trintec was using its own resources and had not approached the Government for any financial assistance.

Production results of this first Trintec well are expected early next month.

C80: 3025

DETAILS FROM GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER ON GAS REPORTED

Engineering, Security Factors

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 6 Mar 81 p 3

[Text]

NATIONAL GAS COMPANY is to be renamed National Gas Transmission Company, as part of changes in administrative arrangements relating to natural gas operations, and National Energy Corporation will have sole responsibility for the purchase and sale of natural gas.

Government's White Paper on Natural Gas outlines institutional arrangements geared to ensure that the resource is exploited and used in a manner in keeping with national objectives.

A gas engineering division has also been established in the Ministry of Energy and Energy-Based Industries.

The White Paper pointed to the security aspect of operations relating to supplies, as well as security against accidents and possible disasters.

The paper noted: "Evidence suggests the need to implement a policy that would guarantee supplies from a multiplicity of sources, and by different transportation routes."

"There is the need, also, to establish, where possible, storage areas for natural gas in close proximity to the main consuming areas, as well as to maintain an adequate inventory of supplies for proper maintenance and timely repair of all gas transmission facilities."

"Adequate provision must be made to ensure that effective security arrangements are adopted in all aspects of pipeline operations."

Conservation Efforts

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 6 Mar 81 p 3

[Text]

TWO compressor platforms, costing (TT)\$192 million are being installed offshore, in a bid to conserve natural gas being flared off the east coast of Trinidad. National Gas Company and National Energy Corporation are supervising the project.

The White Paper on Natural Gas explained that the platforms should be installed at the end of this year, and would have a peak collection rate of 80 to 100 million standard cubic feet of natural gas a day.

Conservation efforts also include a gas storage project in the Penal area, which is being timed to coincide with the flared gas project.

Mr. George Legall, former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy-based Industries, has been released to work full-time on the flare gas project. He is also Chairman of National Gas Company and Trinidad Tesoro.

TIME FRAME

Mr. Mahabir explained that any shortfall in natural gas supplies was

not expected to have any effect on the planned energy-based projects.

Government, he said, had not abandoned its LNG project, but was working on a time frame, and the proposed aluminum smelter was still open for participation by other regional countries.

Relating to the compressor platforms, the White Paper said studies on the area had shown that the

collection and compression of some of the low-pressure, associated natural gas currently being flared was economically feasible.

Government, therefore, decided to install two compressor platforms in Teak and Poni fields.

The White Paper noted that a committee was established by Cabinet to negotiate the LNG gas supply contracts with the producers.

The committee reported that some of the producers had sought to tie the price of natural gas to world energy prices, and it maintained Government's position that, should companies earn a reasonable return on investment, with adequate provision for inflation on capital costs, any benefits derived principally from world energy price increases should accrue to Trinidad and Tobago.

Producers were not willing to undertake the additional drilling to establish the extent of reserves and to guarantee the gas volumes to be sold.

The Paper noted that Mobil Oil Company, which was awarded a production-sharing contract off the south-east coast, was expected to begin drilling early this year.

Trintec is also finalising arrangements for drilling two wells in Block 9, off the north-west peninsula.

EDITORIAL WEIGHS FACTORS IN DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL GAS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Mar 81 p 8

[Text]

IN CAUTIOUS tone, the White Paper recently published on the country's proposed Natural Gas Policy warns all of us that "unless certain dramatic changes" occur in the pattern of development of the country's known hydrocarbon reserves, natural gas production will equal the declining production of petroleum predicted for the next decade.

International oil prices will continue to increase but this country's production of petroleum will be declining to such an extent that the increased prices envisioned will hardly do more than stabilise the public revenues now obtained from that source beginning from about 1984.

The alternative hope is for the country to uncover and sensibly exploit natural gas deposits increasingly and without waste.

The future, therefore, will belong to natural gas, as far as Trinidad and Tobago is concerned, and in our view this will require a rare kind of economic diplomacy now being shaped, we hope.

DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

At the moment it appears that there is some significant difference of opinion between the Government and Amoco, the current major supplier of natural gas here.

The difference has cropped up over contract prices. According to Amoco the reserves designated "are not economical to develop and are therefore not available to the National Gas Company unless the gas prices are renegotiated."

The Government's view is that "natural gas purchases will be undertaken on the basis of a reasonable rate of return to the producer."

Government is "seeking to ensure control over the nation's resources, in order that the optimum development programme for natural gas reserves will be followed."

Natural gas purchases must of necessity be based on the peculiar operating and economic environment of each producer and the distribution of such purchases must remain the sole prerogative of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago."

The stage is therefore set for the best exercise of economic wisdom and industrial diplomacy of which we are capable, so that at no time will the economic future of the country be less brighter than it appears in the glow of the White Paper.

The implied need will be the association of this country with companies able to offer advanced technology for the maximisation of efforts to undertake secondary and

tertiary recovery of crude petroleum and to develop the probable reserves of natural gas in addition to the so-called proved reserves of natural gas.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

Upon the recovery of natural gas, an increasing load of energy-based industries crucial to the continued prosperity of the nation is to be deposited.

Enormous expenditures on research and development using indigenous means will have to be undertaken.

The way ahead entails, the Government admits, the exercise of great care to prevent waste of our major natural resource.

To this end, therefore, the Government will assign to the National Energy Corporation the sole responsibility for the purchase, sale and transmission of natural gas.

The new corporation will also embark upon an elaborate comprehensive training programme to get suitably trained nationals into positions of responsibility for the operations of the natural gas sector.

Adequate provisions are to be made to ensure effective security arrangements for pipeline operations and great efforts will be made to procure suitable licensees and production-sharing contractors but where these cannot be obtained the Government will introduce legislation to develop natural gas reserves in the national interest.

REVENUE, EXPENDITURES ESTIMATES FOR FISCAL '81-'82

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] The Government's Estimates for fiscal year 1981-82 have projected current revenue at \$483 726 736, representing an increase of 22 per cent over the projected revenue for the fiscal year 1980-81.

This was revealed in the Annual Estimates which were tabled in the House of Assembly yesterday by Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Bernard St. John, in the absence then of Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Mr. Tom Adams.

Estimated expenditure is \$469 161 361; and estimated excess of current revenue over current expenditure is \$14 565 375.

For this fiscal year, estimated capital expenditure is \$199 401 231.

Leader of the House Mr. Bernard St. John intimated to Members of the House that the debate on the Estimates, in accordance with the rules of the House, will begin on Monday.

The memorandum of the Estimates has stated that the main increases in the Estimates for fiscal 1981-82 over 1980-81 are attributable to higher subsidies to Government agencies and the increase in salaries payable to public sector employees.

Increases may be observed in the following Heads:

- Defence and Security \$3 526 292;
- Ministry of Finance and Planning, \$18 729 747;
- Ministry of Agriculture, \$2 201 072;
- Ministry of the Attorney General, \$7 981 628;
- Ministry of Trade, \$1 063 597;
- Civil Aviation and Tourism Division, \$3 711 953;
- Ministry of Communications and Works, \$4 100 613;

--Ministry of Education and Culture \$24 018 686;

--Ministry of Health, \$16 116 574;

--Ministry of Housing, \$4 212 745;

--Ministry of Information, \$2 243 002; and

--Ministry of Labour, \$5 252 630.

The estimated revenue of the Post Office is \$7 120 200, an increase of \$749 010 over the figure of \$6 371 190 for 1980-81. The estimated expenditure of \$7 822 932 is \$1 718 947 over the amount of \$6 103 965 for 1980-81.

The deficit of the Post Office for 1981-82 is projected at \$702 732.

The capital estimates for 1981-82 provides for the financing of continuing projects as well as the new projects as identified in the Development Plan for the period 1979-83. [as published]

A comparable table of the revised estimates for 1980-81 and the estimates for 1981-82 show an increase of \$54 837 219.

Some of the highlights of capital expenditure are:

--Ministry of Finance and Planning: The sums of \$5 392 445 and \$15 538 125 have been provided as Government's contribution to financial institutions and to the purchase of equity in commercial ventures respectively. An amount of \$2 560 000 has been provided for the continuation of feasibility studies.

--Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs: The sum of \$13 820 901 has been provided to meet this year's expenditure on the relocation and expansion of the Barbados Marketing Corporation, the redevelopment of Oistins, the fisheries terminal, the rural development programme, Spring Hall land lease project and the Central Agronomic Research laboratory.

--Ministry of Trade and Industry: The sum of \$8 578 450 has been allocated to the continuing programme of factory construction on industrial estates.

--Civil Aviation and Tourism Division: An amount of \$18 million has been provided to finance the construction of the Heywoods Development Project.

CSO: 3025

TOURISM TO BE BALANCED AGAINST NATIONAL WELFARE NEEDS

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 12 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] Government is now preparing a comprehensive plan for public beaches around the island.

Minister of Tourism Mr. Bernard St. John said yesterday that the plan was to contain proposals for visual, pedestrian and vehicular accesses to beaches as well as life-guard stations, beach markets and shower and changing facilities.

Mr. St. John, speaking at the opening of Barbados' newest life-guard station at Enterprise, Christ Church, said that restaurants would also be provided in some areas.

According to Mr. St. John, the rights of Barbadians to the enjoyment of facilities and services will be protected. [as published]

He said that the show-piece of the policy would be the Heywoods Holiday Village project, now under construction.

The Ministry of Tourism is also to collaborate with the Board of Tourism and the University of the West Indies (UWI) in planning surveys to monitor the attitudes of Barbadians to the rate and pattern of tourism development.

"Government realises the importance of tourism, but recognises that ultimately the survival of tourism in Barbados will depend on the continued positive and healthy attitude of Barbadians to visitors and the subordination of the role of tourism to national welfare needs", the Minister said.

Mr. St. John said that key requirements for this strategy were: the avoidance of congestion and the displacement of Barbadians by visitors; the preservation and enhancement of Barbadians' rights; the maximum participation of Barbadians for the economic and social benefits of the sector, standards of conduct acceptable to both Barbadians and visitors and the strengthening of the social and cultural fabric of the country.

But he observed that specific measures taken in the tourist sector were at best only supplementary to the planned activities of other sectors.

Noting that Government has already taken action to expand the range of attractions for both visitors and locals, Mr. St. John said that one of these, Harrison Cave in St. Thomas, was to be opened shortly.

Other developments are planned for Hometown, Hackleton Cliff and Haynes Hill in St. John and Fitts Village, St. James.

CSO: 3025

BRIEFS

GUN RUNNER'S THREAT--Bridgetown, Sun., (Cana): After a number of torpedoed attempts, foreign-based Barbadian gun-runner Sydney Burnett-Alleyne, said in an interview published here today he was still bent on forcefully taking over the Barbados Government. The SUNDAY SUN newspaper said Burnett-Alleyne had called its office, apparently from Central Africa, to announce: "I am coming home as Head of State and Government. I am coming home as a liberator. [as published] Burnett-Alleyne who has been described by top Government officials here as a "crackpot" "misguided" and "crazy like a fox" told the newspaper that the plans for an invasion of the island were being finalised with revolutionaries this weekend. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 9 Mar 81 p 1]

ST VINCENT CANE WORKERS--Bridgetown, March 19 (CANA): A shortage of field labourers to reap Barbados' 1981 sugar cane crop will be alleviated early next month with the arrival here of 250 workers from St. Vincent. Assistant secretary of the Barbados Sugar Producers Association (SPA) Trevor Rudder said today that government had approved the importation of the workers. The 1981 sugar cane crop, which got under way late because of protracted pay negotiations, has been severely hit by a shortage of workers, with some estates complaining that they were unable to deliver their normal quota of canes to the factories. The shortage has also brought reaction from the factories some of which they were receiving below average supplies of canes. Production for this year is projected a between 110,000 tonnes and 115,000 tonnes, subject to good rainfall, and the quick grinding of canes which have been maliciously set afire. [as published] Last year Barbados manufactured just under 132,000 tonnes. It was the largest sugar crop since 1971. [Excerpts] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Mar 81 p 20]

CSO: 3025

RECORD 1981 BUDGET GIVES BREAKS TO COMPANIES, NOT WORKERS

Gibbons Presentation

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 28 Feb 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] Pay, pay, pay--and there's little in store to soften the blow. That was the bad news for working Bermudians in the record of \$'32 million Budget presented to the House of Assembly yesterday by the Premier and Finance Minister, the Hon. David Gibbons. For while the local and international companies escaped lightly, the ordinary man and woman will have to fork out more of their wages.

Up goes the hospital levy (from 1 1/2 to 3 per cent); cigarettes, by at least 10¢ a pack; gas by 2¢ a litre; ferry fares (doubled); betting tax (doubled); land tax for properties with an annual rental value over \$12,000; and fees for drivers' licences, vehicle number plates, passports and work permits.

In return there were few concessions.

The A.R.V. level up to which people over 65 are exempt from paying land tax rises from \$5,340 to \$6,300.

The export tax on a gallon-pack of liquor drops from \$1.50 to \$1.

A gift allowance of \$25 for visitors will be introduced to speed up Customs clearance of arriving passengers.

And the current \$10 exemption from tax for postal packages will be raised to \$20.

An expected rise in kidney machine treatment will be less with the dropping of import duty on equipment and supplies. Mr. Gibbons' return to a balanced budget after last year's deficit of about \$7 million held no joy for senior citizens hoping for pension increases and those on social services benefits looking for increases in allowances.

As expected after last year's election budget in which international and local business were hammered in favour of the man in the street, this year's hardly touched the companies or tourists. The companies will be affected by the hospital levy increase, as they pay half with the employee paying half.

"We have an undertaking that we only increase company taxes once during the time of the House," said Mr. Gibbons. "I feel certain that everyone who studies this

budget will agree that it is a very reasonable one and that in keeping with other recent budgets, it will serve as a solid foundation for the economy of this Island for the coming year," the Premier told the House.

"The fact that it is once again a balanced one, which in itself will continue to make Bermuda the envy of many other nations both large and small, will be welcomed and praised by this and future generations of the tax paying public."

The immediate response of Shadow Finance Minister Mr. Frederick Wade was one of disappointment. He said he would spend the next week closely studying the details before making his formal reply in the House next Friday.

"But my first thought is that the increases all seem to be aimed at the man in the street," he said. "I am disappointed at that, and would have thought that local companies could have taken more taxation."

The Department of Health and Social Services overtakes Education as the Ministry getting the biggest portion of the Budget at \$28.5 million, or 21.6%.

"This is in keeping with Government's policy to develop better social services for all," said Mr. Gibbons. "In particular, additional funds have been provided for combatting drug abuse and for an expanded legal aid service."

Education will be the second biggest spender at \$21.9

million, with Works, Agriculture and Fisheries in third place at \$19.4 million.

Of the \$3 million provided for new capital projects, almost half goes to social services. Included are \$600,000 each for a 30-bed extension to Lefroy House and the start of work on a new women's prison.

The Victoria Street clinic is to be expanded. Lefroy House is to be converted to a rest home, buildings on Paget Island are to be converted for the rehabilitation of some girls now at the Ridgeway Home and work will begin on the second phase of the prison officers' club.

To mark the International Year of the Disabled Person, work is to start on a new day training centre at a cost of \$300,000.

Under Education, \$250,000 is to be spent on the next phase of the Stonington Hotel complex, and \$98,800 to buy land for the Bermuda College.

Other new projects include a police cadet training centre (\$160,000); replacement of the police radio tower (\$17,000); and new post boxes at St. George's post office (\$35,000).

Public Works will be spending \$100,000 starting work on a new waste disposal scheme; \$200,000 on work for the new St. George's hotel development; \$135,000 on a revision of survey maps; \$100,000 for name signs on private roads, and \$25,000 for repairs to The Causeway.

The total provision for capital spending during the year is \$16.4 million, up by almost \$1 million on last year.

Projects already underway are Airport improvements (\$3.1 million); a new wing at St. Brendan's psychiatric hospital (\$2 million); and completion of the new Watford Bridge (\$1.3 million).

Government's water programmes will take \$1.1 million.

The remaining \$2.1 million for capital projects goes on the reconstruction of Somerset Bridge; renovation of Government housing; construction of a new fire station at the West End; improvements to Pembroke Community Club, and other minor works.

In his economic review, Mr. Gibbons said that despite problems plaguing the western world, Bermuda's economy had continued to expand. He was particularly proud of the fact that by April 1 the public debt will have been reduced to \$4.3 million. It was expected that the debt would be fully paid by April 1983.

"I need not remind honourable members that if steps had not been taken to reduce the public debt, which five years ago stood at \$25 million, today's staggeringly high international interest rates would have necessitated raising an additional \$5 million a year just to pay the interest," he said.

Opposition Criticism

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 7 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] Bermuda's working people have been hit by a budget which shows a "callous disregard" for them, Deputy Opposition Leader Mr. Frederick Wade told the House of Assembly yesterday.

He lashed out at Government's policy of not taxing company profits and the dividends of investors.

And he called for harsher taxation of local companies which he said bragged about their huge profits.

Mr. Wade's 50-minute reply to the Budget presented to the House last week by the Premier and Finance Minister, the Hon. David Gibbons, was made to the background noise of protesting hotel workers objecting to the plan to include their tips in wages subject to the increased hospital levy.

And Mr. Wade gave support to the workers. "How do they (Government) justify the inclusion of the gratuities of hotel and restaurant workers while leaving out dividends, rents and allowing the well-to-do to escape their fair share of the burden," he asked.

Mr. Wade said that the Progressive Labour Party had always found a lot to disagree with in the Government's budgets.

"But never have I been called upon to respond to a Budget statement so devoid of equity and tainted with bias in favour of a particular sector of our community," he said.

It revealed a "callous disregard for the plight and condition of the working people of Bermuda."

He said that he could understand a "holiday" from tax increases for the international companies. "But we find it difficult to accept that local companies should enjoy such a holiday," he said.

Recently we have been inundated with the annual reports from business bragging about their huge profits." [as published]

Mr. Wade also criticised Government's housing programme which he said was seriously inadequate. "It is our firm opinion that Government must not simply repair houses already in existence, it must get on with the job and build houses for rent as fast as it humanly possible.

"The people of this country demand a housing policy designed to accommodate the needs of our people."

The Deputy Opposition Leader, who is also the P.L.P.'s finance spokesman, attacked Government's boast that Bermuda's gross domestic product ranked among the best in the world.

"Simple quotes of the G.D.P. figures do not indicate the spread of wealth throughout the community," he said. "We could be number one, even if all the wealth in this country was owned by one person.

"It is our belief that despite increased employment in the international community, the wealth of Bermuda is not adequately shared among the population."

'LE MONDE' ANALYSIS OF PINOCHET REGIME

Paris LE MONDE in French 10, 11, 12, 13 Mar 81

[Article by Jean-Pierre Clerc: "Chile: Second Wind of the Dictatorship"]

[10 Mar 81, pp 1, 4]

[Text] On 11 March, General Pinochet is to succeed himself as president of the Chilean republic. Head of the Executive Branch since the ouster of Salvador Allende on 11 September 1973, the commander of the army intends to exercise power for 8 or 9 more years based on the "mandate" given to him on 11 September by a plebiscite won under the most questionable conditions.

The international isolation of the regime has diminished since Reagan entered the White House: The United States has made several good will gestures toward General Pinochet. And yet, attacks on human rights continue to be just as numerous in Santiago. Five persons are now on trial for violating state security and risk the death penalty. On Sunday, 8 March, General Pinochet declared: "To think that any political opening might occur is very far from reality."

1. Institutionalization of General Pinochet

Santiago—La Moneda [Executive Mansion] has once again become a beehive of activity. Silent since General Leigh's planes gutted it on 11 September 1973, tragic with its padlocked doors, its broken balusters and newels, its windows boarded up, the noble building that has housed the work and days of so many Chilean chiefs of state is now taking on a new look. The austere palace where Salvador Allende perished is preparing to welcome His Excellency Gen Augusto Pinochet on 11 March. For seven and a half years, the man has presided over the country's destiny. "President of the junta," "the supreme leader of the nation," and since 1974, "president of the republic," the titles changed as ascendancy of the commander of the army has increased. But General Pinochet remained faithful to the Diego-Portales building, a modern edifice on the main artery of Santiago which, in 1972, housed an important UN conference. According to one diplomat, the chief of state felt comfortable in that building so lacking in grace but large enough to enable him to have all his people under his hand.

The transfer to La Moneda is therefore symbolic. On 11 March, General Pinochet will assume the presidency of the republic by virtue of the "mandate" conferred

upon him 6 months earlier by 67 percent of his fellow citizens. The fact that the opposition, Christian Democrats and the left combined denounced the constitutional referendum as a fraud did not bother this Machiavelli.

General Pinochet, whose role in planning the 1973 coup was much smaller than that of his Navy or Air Force colleagues, gradually pushed his peers aside. In 1978, he eliminated the most dangerous one among them, General Leigh, *manu militari*. However contested it may have been, the plebiscite on 11 September 1980 conferred an aura upon him that joined the "historic legitimacy" which the armed forces as a whole claimed for having "saved the nation from Marxist chaos" in 1973. It enables him to remain in power, with this new anointing, until 1990 and perhaps even 1997, if his health permits.

Time is in his favor, his supporters bluntly believe. One of them told us: "History will see in Augusto Pinochet the new Franco of Latin America, the man who, after 35 years of a strong regime, turned Spain into the tenth industrial power on the planet."

Does General Pinochet have the stature of the *caudillo*? One of his social democratic adversaries paints this portrait of him: "His assets? He has an absolute mastery of the military milieu. He has an impressive amount of energy and ability to work for a 70-year-old man. If he is not in his office by 0730 hours, it is because he is in Arica or Terre de Feu. Always on the offensive, a detailed calculator, he also likes strokes of fate. He is an astute man who learned to govern by governing. He has but a few simple concepts but he knows how to hammer them out. He is also tenacious: He has already come back from the brink of death three or four times. The chinks in his armor? He is frightfully vain. He takes himself for a world leader, unlike Franco, who always tried to go unnoticed. He believes that he has been appointed to lead the crusade against communism. He does not know how to delegate responsibility. He does not accept the slightest contradiction." Conclusion: "He is not on a par with the Galician" (Franco).

"Hardliners" and "Moderates"

And yet, over the years, the man has taken on stature. His adversaries have ceased predicting his imminent fall. Rather, they now wallow in the opposite excess: "He will be in power for 15 to 20 years," sighs one of the pillars of the Christian Democrats. A Marxist opponent who has been underground for seven and a half years tells us: "Pinochet's authoritarian democracy is not a Creole dictatorship like that of Gabriel Garcia Marquez. We wasted too much time believing that Pinochet was a picturesque or ridiculous dictator. He is a dictator to be taken seriously...."

One leftist editorialist does not hesitate to speak about a "capitalist revolution" in connection with the type of society now being built. He sees Chile as a "laboratory for the new international right, perhaps one of the places where the future face of world capitalism is being shaped." For him, the regime is "neither a restoration of the traditional right or a hitch in democracy, but rather, a new type of social transformation."

"On 11 September 1980, the Chileans had to respond to three questions," a Catholic Church official pointed out to us. "Do you approve of the final constitution? Do you approve of the transitional constitution? Do you approve of the appointment of General Pinochet as president?"

"That is too much for a single 'yes' or a single 'no'."

The constitution of 11 September 1980 is not to be completely applied, in fact, until 1997. Although it seems to have "filled all the holes," its 120 articles were completed by a chapter entitled "Transitional Provisions," whose principle purpose is to entrust power to General Pinochet for at least another 9 years.

The decision to submit a new constitution to a referendum was apparently not thoroughly thought-out. Although a charter destined to replace the one of 1925 had been worked on since December 1974, the Chilean chief of state was in no hurry to finish it.

His daughter Lucia, willingly used as a spokesman, reported that he grew irritated over the "complicated mechanisms," veritable hobbles on the "national elan," being polished by the learned conservative jurists.

Around this text being developed, serious confrontations crystallized between supporters of the regime. Two groups, the "hardliners" and the "moderates," went at each other over it with all the more vigor because the opposition, weak and divided, deprived of any means of expression, had no way of covering this rattling of the armor.

For the hardliners, it would be an abomination to return, either deliberately or as a result of a slow shift, to the deleterious games of the parties and parliamentarianism, the harbingers of Marxism and the Popular Unity. The exception must therefore become the rule: Military regime, corporatism, no matter, because the essential thing is to preserve an all-powerful executive and until the opposite is proven, General Pinochet is the best possible choice. On the other hand, the hardliners are frightened, in their exaggerated nationalism, of a hyper-liberal economic policy that would sell Chile's resources to foreign countries dirt cheap and create, between the regime's profiteers and a large part of the people, a gap that in the long run may be dangerous.

The leader of the former fascist movement Fatherland and Liberty, Pablo Rodriguez, is one of the leaders of this group. He can rely on the columns of a daily newspaper with a large circulation, LA TERCERA, and on the benevolence of a television station, Channel 7, whose director is the husband of Lucia Pinochet. This trend also obviously benefits sympathies in the armed forces. The state of mind of the Chilean silent majority is hard to gauge, it is true, but seasoned observers state that many officers favorable to a hard-fisted regime are nevertheless puzzled about its economic orientations. In particular, they are reportedly concerned about the dismemberment of national industry which is implied by a total opening of the borders to foreign products and investments and they are irritated by the intrusion of business into politics in certain circles close to the government.

Factitious Quarrel

The moderates (*blandos* or *aperturistas* favoring the opening) are for their part grateful to General Pinochet for having "restored order" to the country. They credit him with lucidity for having chosen, in April 1975, the "shock treatment" to fight inflation and for having surrounded himself with an economic team whose successes, by way of parenthesis, have certainly served his ascension compared with his rather skeptical peers. But the moderates also believe that the time has come for an "institutionalization" so that the future will not be linked to the fate of the chief of state. For them, a "limited democracy" would be ideal. Tolerant of a non-Marxist opposition, it would provide a safety valve for the regime. And since General Pinochet remains the symbol of a coup d'etat which the international community is determined not to "swallow," an orderly succession in the not-too-distant future should be planned for. The pillars of the moderates are the leaders of some of the economic groups on which the regime made its fortune but which are now seeking respectability. The influential conservative daily EL MERCURIO is their spokesman.

Is this a factitious quarrel between the hardliners and the moderates? Some claim that it is, saying that it is a matter of two cliques locked in a bitter struggle to win the favor of the prince. Is General Pinochet not a chief of state who cannot be found and who essentially satisfies both camps? Who ardently maintains order and determinedly supports a capitalist orientation? And yet, the invectives between the hardliners and the moderates reached such heights in the press in 1980 that in the opinion of General Pinochet, it risked endangering what was most essential: himself.

On 9 July, the Council of State made its proposed constitution public. It provided for a "short" 5-year transition, following which a chief of state would be regularly elected by universal suffrage for a 6-year term. For the intervening period, the text provided for an appointed legislative organ. This was the masterpiece of the moderates. General Pinochet did not like it at all. Signs of intense tension were soon apparent. The most notorious was the assassination, on 17 July, of an Information Services colonel. According to his boss, General Mena, the attack "was not in the style of the MIR" (Movement of the Revolutionary Left, which in 1980 claimed responsibility for over 100 attacks, 10 murders and some 20 robberies of banks, restaurants and luxury stores). Was it to settle accounts? Opponents of the regime were kidnapped and tortured, apparently by police working "overtime" and caring little about concealing their tracks. Was it an act of provocation?

Suddenly, on 10 August, General Pinochet launched his proposed referendum. The length of the "transition" was extended to 9 years. The person in power was named to be his own successor. The junta of commanders in chief would choose the single candidate for the presidency in 1989. Any reference to any expanded legislative body disappeared.

What happened during the troubled days of July? An offensive of military milieux linked to the civilian moderates aiming to impose their views on General Pinochet and push him out, if need be? A counter coup of the hardliners, supported in the end by the former boss of the sinister DINA [National Intelligence Department], General Contreras, now retired but the possessor of dark secrets?

Has the chief of state not once again turned the situation to his own profit? Did his proposed referendum not force the hardliners and moderates to unite behind him? Did he not cut short any appeal of the moderates to Christian Democrats? Whatever the case, in organizing his continued stay in power, General Pinochet satisfied his hardliners, but in economic and social affairs, he in no way lost the confidence of the moderates, as seen at the end of December at the time of the Cabinet shakeup.

[11 Mar 81, p 5]

[Text] II. Opponents in Search of an Opposition

The constitutional referendum of 11 September 1980 not only strengthened the authority of General Pinochet in his camp (LE MONDE, 10 March). It also created trouble among his adversaries.

Santiago--"The truth is that I do not know whether General Pinochet won or lost the plebiscite." We are talking with a Church official, one of those men who, because of his action on behalf of the persecuted and those neglected by the system, has called down upon himself most of the regime's hostility. He continues: "The Christian Democrats have conducted polls that nearly agree with the results. According to them, there was no fraud at the polls. Others disagree. They believe that there was rigging and that the 'no' vote won. What is certain, as the bishops said, is that there was no moral guarantee for a serious electoral process. The state of emergency was not lifted, nor was the ban on political activity. There was no registration and the election tribunals were appointed by the government. The opposition had no means to make itself heard."

For the Commission of the 24, a "think tank" that has 3,000 members: politicians, members of the teaching profession, jurists, intellectuals from the Christian Democratic Party to the Communist Party, the fraud was "overwhelming and brutal." Essentially, the regime, taking advantage of the absence of election registration records, destroyed in 1974, stuffed the ballot boxes in Greater Santiago. In this area, representing over one-third of the electorate, the "no" vote would have won by 52 percent.

The Christian Democrats are not so dogmatic. "The plebiscite certainly did not have the value of a free election, but the truth is that the 'yes' votes did represent nearly two-thirds of those cast: one-third enthusiastic and one-third terrorized or resigned," we were told by one party spokesman.

The Marxist leader told us: "I do not believe that the 'yes' votes won. But even if Pinochet had only 45 percent of the votes, that must make us ask ourselves serious questions."

Few opponents follow the example of one Socialist Party leader -- who also preached abstaining instead of voting "no" -- and agree to "speak about the figures." One wonders why. Is it fear pure and simple? Demobilization? Disarray? Resignation? "If you ask the masses, they will tell you that the plebiscite changed nothing. Freedoms are still nonexistent and the poorest are still without housing or enough

to eat. But the political class has entered a phase of Draconian redefinition," one Christian left leader explained to us.

The early years after the coup d'etat were nevertheless marked by one concern: surviving. With the leftist parties dissolved and persecuted, their leaders in prison or exile, the Popular Unity overwhelmed by its failure and atomized by having to live underground, the Christian Democratic Party "suspended" and viewed suspiciously because of its previous attitude to the coup d'etat: Everything worked against any rapprochement of the two opposition blocs.

The liberalization of the regime in 1977-1978 facilitated an increase at the grassroots level, often under the aegis of the Church, of concrete actions involving Christian Democratic militants and Marxists. But despite the insistent "offers of service" of the Communist Party in order to form an "antifascist front," the Christian Democrats did not agree to any organic liaison with the left. "For Pinochet it would be too good of a card, given the nausea which the Communist Party causes in an entire part of the country," one very reliable Christian Democrat told us. It is fair to add that the superb narrow-mindedness of the Christian Democrats, convinced that they alone represented the "real Chile," undoubtedly did not help to bind people together.

The announcement of the referendum brought about the first organic rapprochement of the two opposition blocs. A "democratically coordinated leadership (commando)" was created between the Christian Democratic Party and the leftist parties, which appealed for a "no" vote. For a month, Eduardo Frei appeared to be the virtual leaders of a united opposition and a man who might eventually take General Pinochet's place.

"We nearly got caught," that leftist militant now admits. Even for those who had never harbored any illusions about the outcome of the voting, there was a feeling of intense frustration when the country, which for 4 weeks had renewed a political life banned for 7 years, had its aspirations stifled once again.

Shift of the Communist Party

It was an especially rude awakening because the two opposition blocs interpreted the new situation very differently. For the Christian Democrats, the plebiscite, no matter how unreliable, had confirmed General Pinochet's power. "He has never been so strong," admitted the prominent representative of the Christian Democrats. Another party spokesman declared: "I believe that the opposition must be realistic. Over the next 4 or 5 years, it will not be able to change this government. At first, we thought that such vulgar authoritarianism had no chance in Chile. Then, at the time of the economic crisis in 1975-1976, they said: He will not survive. Then we thought that international pressure would bring him down. The date of 11 September dried up those dreams. We must now establish our long-term objectives: tackle the task of changing society internally: the universities, factories, districts, barracks, while patiently trying to renew and inject new life into party doctrine and structures. This is not defeatism; it is realism. Politics is the art of the possible, not a way to use idle dreams compensate for the grind of everyday life. We must rid our heads of ideologies, rethink the national situation, train the leaders of the future, draw up an alternative political program in alliance with all democratic humanists in Chile."

On the left, one listens to this speech with suspicion. The disarray that succeeded the "victory" of General Pinochet is frequently considered therein as "proof that excessive importance has been attributed to the legal opposition spaces." One leader of a former Popular Unity party explains: "The plebiscite acted as a developer on a Chilean left already inclined to question itself about the recent evolution of certain Latin-American countries such as Nicaragua. Some say: 'All peaceful paths are closed; we must henceforth oppose the dictatorship in the most determined manner. Naturally, there can be no question of creating guerrilla cores; look at the map! Rather, one should stimulate mass actions outside legality and to support this by sporadic confrontations.'" One can imagine, as in El Salvador, a "network of social organizations defended by people's forces trained to confront the dictatorship and planning a mass uprising." That is what is called "acute violence" here. In short, it is a question of responding to the obvious need to cross swords with the dictatorship that is perceptible "among the rank and file," the young in particular, and that to date found no response in the parties.

Does this mean that the choices have been made? The recent signing in Cuba of an agreement between the parties of the former Popular Unity and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), a supporter since its creation of armed struggle, shows that the backers of more Draconian methods are gaining ground.

Several factors have contributed to this radicalization. Our interlocutor enumerates them: "The victorious uprising of the Sandinists in Nicaragua; the exiles' impatience to return home; the evolution of the Communist Party...."

The Chilean Communist Party is in fact at the heart of the debate. Even before 11 September, its secretary general, speaking on Radio Moscow, evoked the legitimacy of resorting to other means when all peaceful means have failed. Since that time, Corvalan has become more strident. After another attack in November on high-tension wires, he declared: "Whoever they may be, the persons who did it deserve admiration for their audacity and effectiveness." The sabotage was in fact the work of four commandos, two of which bore the names of former leaders of the MIR and the Communist Party.

For the Chilean Communist Party, there is here a considerable evolution compared with an old line of a quarter of a century ago, which was that of the "mass struggle." The rapprochement with the MIR, denounced since its formation as a "adventurist" grouping, is noteworthy.

In this evolution, outside elements have played their role. While the history of the past quarter of a century shows that the Communist parties have been absent from the two major Latin American revolutions that were victorious, in Cuba and Nicaragua, the Chilean Communist Party was knocked off its pedestal in Chile in 1973. Its "legalist" attitude was very severely judged in Moscow. The attitude of other Latin American Communist parties suggests that with the resurgence of world tension, it is perhaps a continental shift that is occurring.

The choice of an armed strategy; recognition of the need for integration into a popular front, without any concern for hegemony *a priori*; a renunciation of hopes once placed in "progressive military sectors": The Chilean Communist Party

is carefully studying these new orientations. This is not unaccompanied by internal tension. Young people are obviously more sensitive to the radical option. The workers sectors, shaped by decades of "pacifism" and more exposed to repression, would not follow without some reticence.

This evolution of the Communist Party has echoes among the left. To the Socialist Party, which is highly divided, the dominant line, which responds to Salvador Allende's former Minister Almeyda, manifests a resurgence of dynamism which one politician, himself a Marxist, labels as "neo-Bolshevik." As for the three leftist groups coming out of the Christian Democratic Party (the MAPU [Unified Popular Action Movement], the Worker-Peasant MAPU [MAPU-OC] and the Christian Left [IC]), in the words of one of their leaders, they have "no *a priori* concerning the radicalization of the struggles; one discusses them."

Era of Suspicion

Consequently, the date 11 September 1980 will have marked only a fleeting rapprochement between the left and the Christian Democrats. For this group, in fact, any violent option is condemnable, for it always causes an escalation of repression.

We have therefore rapidly entered the era of suspicion.

The Christian Democrats criticize the left for trying to embark upon a "policy of testimony," whose principal effect will be to increase the number of martyrs. On the left, the "acute pacifism" of Frei's group is castigated. It is suspected of being ready to stand up as a kind of "loyal opposition" to General Pinochet.

"I know no one in my party," retorts a Christian Democratic leader, "who wants to act as if the system did not exist, or inversely, who has manifested any desire to join it. We have two feet; we should have one in and one out. One must both take advantages of every inch given up by the regime and fight to take more. The left is doing nothing else."

Moreover, the Christian Democratic Party recently felt "the hard hand of His Excellency," to quote the headline of a Santiago daily. Its president, Andres Zaldivar, was prohibited from returning to Chile for having doubted the validity of the constitutional plebiscite in an interview. The No 2 man in the main Chilean party cannot return to the country unless he signs a statement promising to "respect the existing authorities, the established order and the constitution that was duly approved on 11 September." This measure has largely reduced opponents to silence and all of them asked to remain anonymous.

This fundamental lack of understanding between the regime and Christian Democrats has not prevented this Latin American observer, assigned to Santiago for a long time, from thinking that "many people within the government -- let us say the enlightened right -- basically want to coopt the Christian Democrats. This is a fundamental stake."

[12 Mar 81, p 4]

[Text] III. The Wildcat Capitalist Revolution

While the enemies of the increasingly personalized dictatorship of General Pinochet ask themselves what is the best way to confront it, the regime is setting up a plan to radically transform the economy, without any consideration to its social effects (LE MONDE, 10 and 11 March 1981).

Santiago--"When the Popular Unity was in power, I always had three bottles of oil ahead. You had to wait in line for half a day, but at least you had that. Now," continues a housewife in a district of a southern suburb of the capital, "I can only buy the oil I need."

In many low-income districts, the administration of Salvador Allende left mitigated memories, especially among the women. They had little love for the strikes or the black market, much less the late hours kept by the husband or sons, that freedom that went to the head of adolescents, the family quarrels over politics, the young people who wanted to give advice to the older generation and teach them what was good for them.

But in Cisterna, they at least remember that one was never hungry and that the husband never came home without pay. Today order reigns, but "while the shops are full, our wallets are empty," the people repeat in the district. The husband is frequently out of work, teenagers roam around like souls in torment in the gloomy streets, and as for television, it puts strange ideas in people's heads with its advertisements for products that they will never be able to buy, even with 40 months of credit.

In business circles and international financial organizations, on the other hand, no one hesitates to speak about the "Chilean economic miracle." And they do more than just talk: Everyone wants his share! Not a week goes by without Santiago welcoming the representatives of these new races in the country at the end of the world: the businessmen and bankers. Thanks to them, Chile's "international isolation" is now but a figure of speech. Only the countries in East Europe discreetly fail to renew commercial ties with General Pinochet.

Naturally, one can quibble and especially about the statistics: "By pressing on the scales a bit, the regime can speak about a 'miracle' when there has simply been good growth," comments one economist from the Academy of Christian Humanism (set up under the aegis of the cardinal of Santiago to take in members of the teaching profession, Christian Democrats or leftists dismissed from their alma mater by the regime). "At any rate, this is not Korea or the Federal Republic of Germany."

For the outside world, the most spectacular success of the junta in Santiago was the reduction in the inflation left by the Popular Unity, which exceeded 500 percent in 1973. By 1980, it was a little over 30 percent. This success is all the more remarkable because neighboring Argentina, starting from the same point in 1976, still has triple-digit inflation.

These uneven results can obviously be attributed to the different remedies employed on the two sides of the Andes, remedies discussed all the more sagely in Chile since the method of "gradual" reduction favored in Buenos Aires was also initially used in Santiago. Since success was mediocre, the "horse remedy" of Prof Milton Friedman was then chosen: rebalancing the budget, freeing interest rates and opening the borders.

This "shock treatment" administered by the "Chicago boys" (the term comes from the fact that many members of the economic team, former professors at the Catholic University, completed their studies at the University of Chicago, where they were under Professor Friedman) brought the country two terrible years: 1975 and 1976. Countless bankruptcies, a dizzying rise in the unemployment rate, a Draconian reduction in purchasing power. The dismissal of tens of thousands of public officials and white-collar workers in particular threw a substantial portion of the Chilean petty bourgeoisie into the streets and sometimes forced them into exile.

The austerity was not fairly shared. The freeing of the interest rates mainly benefited those who had something tucked away. It was the heyday of the financiers, the savings banks. Speculators could plunge in to their heart's content. "There were 3 years of outrageous gains," comments a French observer, albeit favorable to the system. "You could pocket over 60 percent in real profits a year."

Fight in a Tunnel

The factories forced to close were bought by those more solid. In addition to this new concentration was the reversion to private ownership of many enterprises nationalized under the Popular Unity or which had belonged to the public sector for a long time.

It was a different countries that emerged in 1977 from what one Chilean journalist called "a savage fight in a tunnel." The major balances so dear to the economists were restored.

The budget was in order. Growth got off to a new start. The public sector was reduced to some 50 enterprises, including the four major copper mines, and were urged to make profits. It appears that one-third of the land distributed to farmers under the agrarian reform changed hands once again. Above all, new economic power emerged: Instead of the four or five firms of medium importance with which one had to reckon in 1970, there were now two very large ones on a national scale and about a dozen medium-size companies. The Cruzat-Larrains and the Vials had dethroned the old Agustín Edwards in the Gotha of "extreme wealth."

This restoration of order inspired confidence abroad. A charter of investments among the most liberal in the Third World reinforced their good opinion in 1977. For the bankers, Santiago became one of the surest places on earth. Consequently, Chile, which in 1974 had had to renegotiate its debt, now happily borrows (\$1.5 billion in 1980) to pay the deficit of the foreign sector. This country, which had once lived according to principles of a patriarchal economy literally burst into flames. Its foreign debt would henceforth exceed \$10 billion, compared with \$3 billion in 1973.

The most resolute enemies of Minister of Finance Sergio de Castro conceded him some successes, first of all, that of having diversified exports. In 1973, copper provided the country with over 80 percent of its foreign exchange income. In 1980, it represented under 50 percent. Tonnages did not drop and prices of the red metal are not depressed. Rather, new products have now come into play.

These products first of all include molybdenum, iron and silver, but lumber as well. Chile has embarked upon a plan to work its large forests in the south. But the most spectacular boom in the nontraditional exports is undoubtedly that one sees in fruits and vegetables, shipped by refrigerated boat or cargo planes to the United States and even Europe. This is a typical example of the turning to profit of one of Chile's comparative advantages: its southern summer in the midst of winter in the Northern Hemisphere! And yet, traditional farm products: grain, sugarbeets, are in trouble and the country has to import wheat and milk.

Industrial exports are not up to par. The break with the Andean Pact in 1976 deprived the country of a potential market of 65 million consumers for industries in which it was ahead of its five partners, textiles in particular. On the contrary, the near elimination of tariffs on goods entering Chile has nearly ruined the sector. It has affected others, such as the machine industry, metallurgy, automobile assembly and electronics.

Despite the very clear recovery of capital goods imports, it is as if the Chicago boys were skeptical about the country's industrial possibilities. Perhaps they believe that with 11 million inhabitants, Chile has no domestic market and that with a SMIC [Interoccupational Minimum Growth Wage] of 450 francs a month, it could not be as competitive as South Korea or Taiwan. At best, it could carve out a modest place in the international division of labor. Its essential niche would be some processing of its natural resources. Many manufacturing plants have thus begun to import products they once made. Bankruptcies have sometimes concealed profitable conversions, while the concentration of firms facilitated the redistribution of capital in now profitable sectors such as export agriculture, agriculture for food crops or mining and forest activities.

A minister visiting Arica, the northernmost city in the country and once the automobile capital, recently told workers complaining of unemployment that there was work for them on plantations and in lumbering in the south, 3,000 kilometers from home! This anecdote expresses quite well the total absence of social sensitivity on the part of the supporters of the system.

"But after all, what do you call the 'social cost'?" Julio Dittborn, a young and brilliant Chicago boy on the Planning Commission, impatiently asks. Unemployment? (Officially, over 10 percent of the active population of Greater Santiago. Quite obviously higher in some regions. Probably 40 percent of the underemployed farm population, without forgetting 130,000 persons — 4 percent of the active population — reduced to working for a "minimum employment program" paying 150 francs a month.) Dittborn sees only one thing: "Employment figures have improved as tariffs have been lowered. It is therefore not the opening that caused the unemployment. Regarding jobs, there has been a redistribution and not an overall contraction." He believes that the unemployment was caused by "the indispensable reduction in the fiscal deficit" and "the increase in the work force," essentially involving women and young people.

Exaggerated Poverty

Then what about poverty? It is exaggerated! "The Central Bank conducted a survey of the income of the unemployed. By doing *pololo* (odd jobs, moonlighting), they earn an average of 850 francs a month. Their problem is obviously that their income is not steady and they do not have social security." Are 20 percent of all Chileans living in a state of absolute poverty? "These figures go back to 1969. We did not therefore create the poor." (Although the indexes are substantially higher, in 1980, the standard of living of the low-income classes barely managed to equal that of 1970.) "We shall soon have a national survey that will enable us to apply remedies to the real sore spots and not, as was previously done, to give priority wherever the greatest political pressure was found. We do not believe in assistance. We must simply give a helping hand to those manifesting a desire to take responsibility for their situation."

This philosophy has already been applied in the area of housing. Social construction has practically been halted. On the other hand, "subsidies" are given to those who want to become owners. However, an initial contribution representing three months of the SMIC must be paid and the monthly payment is at least a third of the SMIC, impossible for the poorest! Consequently, the housing crisis is explosive, with tens of millions of families crowded together in settlements and forced to squeeze together even more to make room for those in worse circumstances.

Although social expenditures officially count for 51 percent of the 1981 budget, traditional public services, education and health in particular, are in trouble and the municipalities are called upon to take over for the government regarding both education and hospitals.

According to the logic of the regime, however, municipal responsibility for education and health should be only one phase in the reversion to the private sector, in keeping with the so-called principle of the "subsidiary nature of the state," defined by Central Bank President Bardon. "The private sector is in charge of whatever is profitable and whatever is not profitable but socially necessary is done by the state." The government has just announced the establishment of a system of retirement by "capitalization," managed by private entities and designed to gradually take the place of the old system.

How far can reversion to the private sector go? This is one of the current quarrels in Chile. The state still produces 60 percent of the GNP, which is substantial by French standards. Products of the subsoil, forests, agricultural or buildable land: Chile is having an auction. And yet, up until 1980 there had been no avalanche of foreign buyers: less than \$1 billion in investments since 1974, nearly all in copper mines, while \$6 billion have entered the country since that date in the form of credits to major firms in the private sector. Apparently, confidence in the stability of the regime was not yet total. The "yes" vote on the 11 September 1980 referendum, which confirms General Pinochet's power for at least 8 more years, was music to the ears of the business world: "That is adequate time to recover your stake and more," we were told by one man whose trade is "to sell" Chile in Europe. After the boom of the foreign bank in recent years, after that of construction now being seen, it is mining, energy, tourism, the hotel trade and services that may be the sectors of the future.

"Beyond the political vicissitudes," as one foreign observer cautiously states, and beyond the "social cost," another euphemism, while one may still wonder about the virtues and limitations of the model of the Chicago boys, one is struck by their smug optimism. "Export, export, there will always be something left...to export": This would seem to be the philosophy. The idea of shoring up the foundations of a productive economy that will in the long run assure Chile of some independence does not seem to have crossed the minds of men who claim to make a religion of "national security."

[13 Mar 81, p 5]

[Text] IV. An Unrecognizable Country

It is not only the economy which the increasingly personalized dictatorship of General Pinochet is seeking to remodel following a hyperliberal model, but the very substance of Chilean society (LE MONDE, 10, 11 and 12 March).

Santiago--The downtown area of the capital has become unrecognizable with its crowded streets decked with statues and fountains, its public buildings newly painted, its elegant structures and commercial stores and shops exhibiting the newest electronic gadgets from all over the world. How much the supporters of the regime insist, when speaking to visitors, on this modernization of the old Santiago, this new air of opulence, this American-type animation!

But the downtown streets are also filled, as never before, with beggars playing their flutes or accordions for a few cents, old people wandering around lost, visibly having given up, children in rags. The buses, called "hares" here, are boarded by women who put out their hands after singing a little song or by teenagers trying to sell candies or fruit. In this country of dignity, these changes are no less noteworthy.

In a little over 7 years, General Pinochet has made his country unrecognizable, not simply because he has turned this "England of Latin America" into a nation where human rights are trampled, but also because in record time, he has transformed a rather "Victorian" country where a benevolent paternalism tempered social inequalities, where wealth was never ostentatious, into a museum of the exploitation of man by man and a temple of blatant consumerism.

"We have to have the courage to decide whether we want a country without poor people or a country without the rich. If we want a country without poor people, we must necessarily adopt a liberal model and know that there will be individuals who will surpass others and become rich. On the other hand, if we want a country without rich people, it will first of all be at the cost of great restrictions on individual freedom. The gifted worker, the entrepreneur with initiative, will have to be kept on a leash. In such a context, there will perhaps be no rich people, but there will certainly be many poor. It will be a society in which poverty will be distributed." This is what Minister Pinera said to 4,000 trade union leaders on 27 August in order to convince them to vote "yes" on the referendum.

General Pinochet's "capitalist revolution" can be seen, first of all, in the dominant speech put out by television and the daily newspapers. In a country where it was once fashionable to be on the left, the absolute tranquillity with which the regime's defenders express opinions bordering on social racism is dumbfounding. An eminent jurist who worked on the proposed constitution tells us:

"There will be so many persons physically or mentally damaged in this country that there will be no question of freedom. That is why the government is investing a great deal in children's nutrition. The new generation will be made up of Chileans who will be mentally, emotionally and physically fit for political participation."

An attorney and prominent professor very involved in business, Claro tells us: "I am not afraid to say it: The elite must govern. The decadence of this country began when our elite began to degenerate. That happened as long ago as 1891, when a liberal political model was imposed. We lost the sense of authority, the insurrection emerged and Chile became ungovernable. I am going to surprise you: I am much less harsh than I am to Allende. Basically, the Popular Unity was but the climax of a long process of degradation."

Like many supporters of the regime, Claro rewrites history. Everyone insists on what he calls "the overwhelming responsibility of the Christian Democrats who, even as anti-Marxists, let the Marxists get one foot in the stirrup," leading the Christian Democratic Party to suicide. The conservative groundswell that in recent years has stirred several Western democracies — the United States most recently — causes them to think that "Chile will be less and less understood" abroad.

Church: No to the Model

Opponents of the regime have little to reply to this ideological bombardment. Why, at the outset, does an all-powerful regime without complexes authorize any room for the opposition? According to the directors of a periodical, "this enables it to exhibit its liberalism to the Western businessmen who came here with an even guiltier conscience and at the same time, it can test the public pulse." HOY, a weekly close to the Christian Democratic Party which expresses very critical views, has a circulation of 20,000. The party also has a radio station. APSI, a bimonthly in which the different leftist groups express themselves, has a circulation of 5,000.

According to one of its dignitaries, the great majority of the Church is "irremediably opposed to a model of society that concentrates wealth and impoverishes the poor." He adds: "I am willing to admit that recognition of certain differences, in talent, for example, is favorable to society. But when, in the chic districts, Vitacura and Las Condes, for example, luxury items are on display when some areas do not even have drinking water or electricity, then these are unacceptable differences." He continues: "The Church relentlessly defends, in the light of the old Gospel, a certain number of human rights: freedom of expression, of assembly, of organization. It defends fundamental values: truth, justice, brotherhood, freedom. As long as the government does not fully recognize these values and accepts those of liberal capitalism in economic affairs and those of national security in politics, then our paths run in different directions."

The divorce is final, but the Church, as an institution, has never broken and out of principle never will break with the government. "There will always be highs and lows, depending on the events," explains our interlocutor. The episcopal conference may have questioned the validity of the plebiscite, but the archbishop of Santiago attended the ceremony promulgating the constitution that emerged from it. The regime itself oversees and denounces the Church as a "place of Marxist infiltration and subversion." But it is all the more opposed to a break because it claims itself to be highly Christian. Does General Pinochet not have himself photographed taking communion?

The approaching succession of Cardinal Silva, about to retire, the Church's role in the papal mediation on the conflict with Argentina over the Beagle Channel, the strengthening of a fundamentalist clan among Chilean Catholics: These are all reasons that might lead the institution to tighten its ranks about a middle position, less openly opposed to the regime.

But throughout these black years, the Church has developed a "theology of solidarity" that no one in it seems about to question. Its prestige is immense among opponents of the regime, including among the unbelievers.

Among the people, it has, to use the expression of a priest, "expiated its immemorial sin of conservatism." The rank-and-file communities would be there if need be to prevent any questioning of "the preferential option for the poor."

Crisis of Confidence

Nor does the regime spare its efforts to gain followers. In low-income groups, its Trojan horse is CEMA, the Mothers Centers. Headed on the national level by Mrs Pinochet, the nation's First Lady, to use the title bestowed on her by the official press, the Mothers Centers are spread throughout the country, especially in districts of the capital. They are frequently headed by officers' wives who, through homemaking courses, put out the new "good word." The regime intends to make maximum use of the relatively good response it has found among low-income women.

Its efforts undoubtedly enjoy less success among the young, frequently exasperated by the shackles placed on any form of nonconformist collective expression. Many teenagers seek escape in artificial paradises: Certain cheap types of glue that provide a good high are wreaking havoc. But they are also young members of opposition parties impatiently demanding determined action against the dictatorship. In 1980, the students began to champ at the bit (student elections in 1980 were unfavorable to official candidates). The old single Chilean Trade Union Federation (CUT) has given way to other de facto organizations: the national coordination, dominated by the left; the Ten, in which the Christian Democratic Party is influential; and the FUT [expansion unknown], sometimes labeled as "anarchist Christian."

The semi-official trade union members are losing speed, especially with unskilled workers, as shown by the most recent enterprise elections. But the intense propaganda against the left has led, in the opinion of one sociologist specializing in labor relations, "to a serious crisis of confidence at the grass-roots level

regarding the socialist idea" (the impatience of the workers is manifested, however, by the resumption of strikes following promulgation of the new labor code: 68 from June 1979 to June 1980).

Consumption

As for the middle classes, they are caught up in a veritable maelstrom. "A kind of race for their support has been initiated by the regime and the Christian Democratic or leftist opposition," one foreign observer says. "What the regime is offering them is a consumer explosion. The lowering of the tariff barriers now makes it possible for them to have an automobile. The temptation is strong to be taken in, for there is in the minds of the people here a European model of culture of which consumption is an integral part."

Minister Pinera explains that the regime's ambition is to make Chile "a country of owners." On the other side, the Christian Democratic and leftist opposition proposes its conviction that Chile must once again become "a country of citizens." During this period of civic glaciation, of exalting the "struggle for life," it is the opposition that appears as the guardian of the venerable values of Chileanness: social justice, participation, solidarity, dialog, compromise and democracy. In these middle classes, one finds many men and women very sensitive to this message.

Where are the lines of defense to be drawn? Is one to give up the Citroneta (2 hp) for a Datsun, buy a color television, replace the national pisco with imported whiskey? Is this not already going over to the enemy, some wonder. The criticism of consumerism (the explosion in consumption) is now an unfailing topic of conversation. The ostentatious display of the nouveaux riches, "those technocrats who literally occupy the country, going from business into government and vice versa," is all the more resented because many of them have not even had time to erase their "young wolf" image taken on in the American universities.

Repression and fear of denunciation explain the distrust that has grown between men who once maintained a dialog transcending political divergencies. Now, like that middle class which, as they like to repeat here, "tips the balance," Chileans have changed. They are less carefree, more in a hurry, more precise. But they are also less playful, less open, less welcoming.

It is decidedly an unrecognizable country, and one of the major concerns of the opponents of the regime is, to use the words of a progressive Christian leader, "the gap that is being created between the situation in Chile and the idea that the exiles have of it" (the 800,000 Chileans living outside the country). He adds: "For those of us here, there is a big risk of accommodation, not of accepting, but of resuming our habits. One example: the system of making retirement pensions a private affair. For anyone who believes in social solidarity, this is monstrous. But if the system turns out to be more profitable, what will the Chileans do? What will I do myself?"

Constant Deterioration in Human Rights

Torture is now part of the government's choice of tools. Naturally, it is not that repression has yet reached the heights of 1973 (when the coup d'etat and summary executions resulted in 15,000 to 30,000 victims, according to the opposition), or even the more routine levels of the years from 1974 to 1976. But 1980 has had an upsurge in human rights violations. The 1977-1978 period of "normalization" is therefore over when, although one could not express oneself freely, an opponent of the regime at least had a minimum of guarantees for his physical safety in case of arrest.

The technique of kidnaping, which had ceased being used since 1977, was resumed in July 1980. All the victims have reappeared, but one of them died of torture.

Except for this event, the most serious attack on human rights in 1980 was the extension from 5 to 20 days of the period of detention in the case of crimes against "state security." Some 80 persons were held on this basis during the second half of 1980. "The increase in the holding period is encouragement to use torture," comments one attorney. Consequently, denunciations have naturally increased.

Another innovation is administrative relegation. By decree, an opponent of the regime may be sent to a remote spot in the country. The victims of this measure, use of which is becoming common, are essentially persons arrested at demonstrations of which they are considered to be the "instigators." They are taken to isolated, very poor villages, where they must exist by their own means. They have to present themselves at the local police station regularly.

The number of arrests made by security services more than doubled in 1980 compared with the previous year, approaching 700. One must add detentions by the forces of order during "sweep operations" customarily carried out in low-income areas, particularly after an attack. Some 100 persons were in prison for political reasons by the end of 1980.

For seven and a half years, the country has been in an unprecedented situation. Every 6 months, the state of emergency is renewed "without any explanation ever given," we were told by an attorney, "as to the catastrophe or disaster motivating it. One ends up thinking that for this government, the disaster is the Chileans!" All regions are under the command of a military chief who particularly controls the written and spoken press.

For opponents of the regime, there is no doubt that while the number of persons touched by repression has dropped, it is because the specialized services have "increased their precision." "They no longer touch people not involved in politics," the attorney told us. "They go directly to the dissidents. Chile is in a situation marked by a constant deterioration in human rights, for it is not the quantity of victims that counts. It is the fact that no opponent can feel that he is safe from what is arbitrary."

11,464
CSO: 3100

DETAINEE REPORTS LINK BETWEEN ARMY AND 'DREADS'

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 12 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] Roseau, Wed., (Cana)

Dominica Police said today that a strong link has been established between some members of the Defence Force and armed men now being sought in the hills.

They said the link has been confirmed by a half-starved man, Eric Joseph, 28, who emerged from the hills earlier this week.

Joseph, frail and with leg infection, has reportedly been wandering in the forests for about two weeks after being abandoned by his comrades.

Police picked him up at the village of Boetica, to the east of the capital, and took him to hospital. On the first day there, he was said to be too weak for questioning.

They have now said he has given a statement confirming that soldiers had on several occasions visited the armed Rastafarian group at the village of Giraudel, south of Roseau, before the February 12 drama in which there was a clash with the Police and two members of the group were killed.

Shortly after that incident, the group burned the home of farmer Ted Honychurch, took him hostage and are still holding him to press the Government into meeting a number of demands.

According to the Government, Joseph was with the group that abducted Honychurch.

Left Behind

"Joseph says that the Defence Force men were always coming to Giraudel to meet the group," said the government statement, adding: "He said that he was usually apart from the main group who talked to those certain Defence Force soldiers".

According to the statement, Joseph had been left behind by the group holding Honychurch as they were moving through the forest.

Joseph is quoted as saying that despite his shouts for help, his comrades moved on.

"They would not turn back to help, and so he had to find his own way to safety without food.

"It has been estimated that Joseph was wandering through the forest for some two weeks," the statement added.

CSO: 3025

BRIEFS

MAIL CENSORSHIP--Roseau, Dominica, Thursday, (CANA)--Dominica last night announced new measures under the emergency powers regulations, giving the Commissioner of Police the authority to open mail addressed to any detainee, in their presence, during the present state of emergency. The emergency was declared following the February 12 kidnapping of prominent farmer Ted Honychurch, who is still being held captive by armed men in the hills. And last weekend government announced it had foiled a coup plot and detained six persons, including ex-Prime Minister Patrick John and Army Chief Frederick Newton. Government said the latest measures are aimed at ensuring that nothing contained in such mail is prejudicial to public safety, public order or national security. [as published] The order, known as the "emergency powers mail censorship regulations 1981" covers all mail, including any letter or package conveyed to Dominica by post, hand delivery or otherwise and includes any telegram or telex message. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 13 Mar 81 p 3]

DPRK INVITATION--Roseau, Dominica, Saturday, (CANA)--An economic team from Dominica has been invited to visit North Korea for a first hand look at what form of assistance that country could give to Dominica. This follows discussions here between Prime Minister Eugenia Charles and visiting North Korean Ambassador to Guyana, Li Jun Ok and his First Secretary Li Sang Li. A government statement issued after the meeting said that the team expressed particular interest in assisting in the areas of communications and hydraulics and agriculture. The release gave no date for the proposed visit, but added that an invitation had also been extended to Prime Minister Charles to visit Korea. "Miss Charles has expressed her gratitude for the invitation but said that she could not give any definite date for such a visit" the release said. North Korea also invited Dominica to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level. The two-man team met also with President Aurelius Marie. [Text] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 13 Mar 81 p 3]

FARM, GENERAL WORKERS WIN BROAD BENEFITS FROM PRG

St George's FREE WEST INDIAN in English 21 Feb 81 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] The Agricultural and General Workers Union (AGWU) and the PRG have concluded a 28-point agreement, which will bring substantial wage increases and better working conditions to workers on state farms, and daily-paid road workers.

From the end of this month, daily-paid men will get an increase from \$6.80 to \$8.50 and women, from \$5.80 to \$7.50. These increases will also affect road workers, who are also represented by the union.

Clerical workers on the estates will also get increases. These fortnightly workers will receive an increase of \$23.80 per fortnight, or \$47.20 per month.

The agreement has several important aspects.

From now on, seniority and experience of workers will have to be considered whenever they are being hired, fired or transferred.

Men and women are to get equal pay for equal work, eradicating discrimination in task pay.

Every worker is to get additional pay whenever beginning a new task after completing the day's task, and must receive 24 hours notice of having to work overtime.

Every worker is now entitled to sick leave benefits, whether sick on the job or at home.

Proper health and safety conditions are now guaranteed for all workers on government farms, and government has agreed to have an insurance plan worked out soon.

Government has also agreed to institute a pension plan for agricultural workers, and has already begun to pay \$20 a fortnight to pensioners, until the plan is implemented.

There will be separate toilets for men and women on the estates, meaning that workers will no longer have to hide behind the bushes.

There will also have to be pipe-borne water and proper drinking facilities, and workers will no longer have to drink water from streams.

Workers will have a common room for eating, and the estates will now have to provide files for workers to sharpen cutlasses. Previously, they had to buy their own cutlasses and files.

Workers on government estates will now be guaranteed time off to attend union meetings, seminars and other union activities, with pay.

Profit-sharing is another important highlight of the agreement. A certified statement of accounts will have to be presented to the union by the estates, after which one-third of the profits will go to the owners, one-third to the improvement of the estate, and the other third to be shared among the workers.

In the event of redundancies, the estate owners will have to inform the union and the workers at least 45 days in advance, and there is a guarantee for severance pay at the end of the employment of each worker.

The workers are also entitled to receive pay for public holidays, once they worked the day before or the day after.

Bro Bain said the union realises that there is need for more benefits, but the workers must realise they did not get "one cent" last year, and that there is need for unity in the times ahead to get more benefits.

All members of the union will have to struggle to get the entire agreement implemented on all estates, he said, and not only on government estates. He is certain that "the agreement between the union and government can be instituted throughout the country."

Today, he said, the workers' interests are being looked after by their union and the PRG, and together, they will fight "to the bitter end" to get what the workers are entitled to.

AGWU today has bargaining rights on 38 estates throughout the country, the majority being government-owned estates. There are shopstewards on 33, elected by the workers on each estate.

CSO: 3025

BRIEFS

POWER SUPPLY SABOTAGE--St. George's, Grenada, Monday, (CANA)--Manager of the Grenada Electricity Services (GES), Rodney George, has been detained by the security forces for allegedly attempting to disrupt the island's power supplies, the state-owned Radio Free Grenada said today. The arrest was made on Saturday, according to the radio, which said the charge against him was of attempting to sabotage the power supply for the second festival of the revolution that brought the opposition New Jewel Movement (NJM) to power on March 13, 1979. The administrative offices of the GES were closed today, amidst reports that the workers had gone on strike to protest the arrest. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 10 Mar 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025

HOYTE, IN BUDGET SPEECH, PROVIDES '80 RESULTS, '81 GOALS

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 21 Feb 81 pp 6-10, 15

[Excerpts] Given the present structure of our economy--which structure it is the prime objective of our investment programme and economic strategy to change radically--physical output and consequently financial outturn are influenced heavily by a number of exogenous factors.

These are well known: they include weather conditions and the terms of trade. The unfavourable impact of these and the other well-known variables inevitably tends to depress production, reduce exports and constrict foreign exchange earnings.

During 1980, all these factors exerted an influence as indeed was expected and anticipated; but one persistent problem which frequently checkmated our production efforts was the unreliability of electric power supply. Towards the end of the year, this situation improved considerably.

Within this frame of considerations, the performance of the various sectors may now be considered. The Bauxite Industry was plagued by a number of technical problems which affected both the volume and the quality of the alumina and calcined product streams.

Rust and Smut diseases continued to affect Sugar yields; and the Rice Industry seemed to have suffered more from management shortcomings and in inadequate supply and an unimaginative deployment of tractors and other machines.

I now give for each of the major industries the levels of production and export earnings, both projected and actual:

Industry	Tonnage		Export Earnings	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Sugar	335,000	269,500	\$310 Mn.	\$292 Mn
Calcined Bauxite	800,000	601,000)		
Dried and Metal Grade Bauxite	900,000	979,000)	\$560 Mn.	\$484 Mn.
Alumina	300,000	211,000)		
Rice	200,000	168,200	\$110 Mn.	\$ 87 Mn.

In terms of value of exports, the sectors earned \$863 million in 1980 as against \$634 million in 1979, or 36% higher than 1979 earnings. However, this was still

12% lower than the earnings projected. Overall, bauxite and sugar performances were disappointing. Rice managed to improve its output over 1979, but was still 16% short of its target. Obviously, the repercussions of the shortfalls in these major sectors were felt throughout the whole economy.

In the non-traditional sectors, there were reasonably good performances, with the following production figures: rum, 3.9 million proof gallons; textiles, 640,000 metres; garments 392,000 dozen; stoves 5,000 units; refrigerators, 20,000 units; pork, 3.1 million lbs.; poultry meat, 28 million lbs.; eggs, 56 million; fish 39.5 million lbs; and shrimps, 8 million lbs.

The Government gave strong support to activities in the non-traditional sectors in order to stimulate their expansion and growth. Government would continue to give encouragement so that they could have increasingly greater significance within the economy.

But while we pay attention to expanding the role of the non-traditional sectors, we have to ensure that we do everything possible to make the three major sectors as efficient as possible.

The Bauxite Industry must ensure not only high levels of production, but a consistently high quality of the product. The Sugar Industry has to come to grips with and find solutions for the problem of low yields per acre.

And the managers in the Rice Industry have to address their minds to the question of better yields per acre and more efficient deployment of machines.

The Industrial Relations Climate

During 1980, industrial relations were comparatively good. The number of man-days lost from strikes fell dramatically from 324,473 in 1979 to 67,620 in 1980; a drop of 79.0%.

Growth, Export, Imports and Balance of Payments

Our overall production efforts in 1980 enabled us to achieve real growth for the first time since 1976. Our GDP grew by about 2% in real terms.

Measured by ordinary standards and our own potential this growth is very modest. However its true importance lies in the fact that after three years of stagnation or negative growth we have been able to reverse this pernicious trend and put our country once again on the growth path. It has a psychological value.

We have earned this slender success under very difficult conditions. We must now build on what we have achieved. We must not now lightly dissipate our gains.

On the basis of our production, merchandise exports earned \$983mn, as against the expected \$1,115mn; and merchandise imports (projected originally at \$1,090 mn.) were restrained within the budgeted ceiling to \$1,084 mn. It will be seen that exports fell 12% below the Budget projections, while imports were slightly below.

Net payments for services amounted to \$225 mn. which was \$45 mn. higher than was estimated.

In the circumstances, the deficit on the current amount of our balance of payments has been tentatively estimated at \$311mm. or 21.4% of GNP instead of the \$155 mm. or 10% of GNP as we had planned.

This figure is very tentative and has to be treated with great caution, since the relevant records for part of the year were destroyed in a fire at the Customs Department and have not yet been reconstructed.

This deficit was financed mainly by a net capital inflow of \$90 mm. an increase in commercial arrears of \$6 mm and running down of our reserves in the amount of \$215 mm.

Deficit

A current account deficit of this magnitude is unsustainable and the toughest possible measures would have to be taken to reduce it.

Public Sector Financial Performance

The financing expectations for our 1980 programme were as follows: public sector surplus, \$181 mm.; net capital inflow, \$152 mm.; routine internal borrowing, \$6 mm.; and Residual financing from the banking system, \$155mm.

Obviously, there is an interconnection between the achievement of these financial levels and the realisation of our production expectations.

The public sector in the end achieved a surplus of a mere \$40 mm.; net capital receipts from external sources amounted to \$85 mm.; and internal borrowings yielded \$9 mm. The end result of these shortfalls was an intolerable public sector pressure on the banking system. Banking system borrowing reached a level of \$353 mm. or \$197 mm. more than was projected.

When due weight has been given to the unanticipated or uncontrollable factors that contributed to reduced production, the dismal performance of the public sector is inexcusable.

On the Central Government side, Current revenues yielded \$454 mm. instead of the expected \$476 mm. [as published] The shortfall was due principally to the failure of some corporations to pay their income tax.

Current expenditure (including debt charges) projected at \$668 mm. rose to \$723 mm. The current deficit was therefore \$270 mm. being \$78 mm. more than the Budget estimate.

Capital expenditure targeted at \$374 mm. amounted to \$338 mm. Government maintained the momentum of the capital programme to avoid retrenchment of workers and speed up developmental activities.

Financial Outturn: Analysis

The financial outturn disappointed mainly because both the production growth and extend receipts fell below the expected levels.

Because of the weak production performance, taxes and dividends from Public Sector corporations fell short of the expected G\$108 million and amounted to no more than G\$73 million.

Surpluses of corporations after taxes, dividends and after allowing for depreciation rose only marginally over their 1979 level and fell from the budgeted target of almost G\$200 million by G\$100 million.

Largely because income taxes on individuals more than maintained their 1979 level of G\$52 million instead of falling to G\$37.5 million as was envisaged when adjustments were made to allowances to the personal income tax, the current revenues other than dividends and taxes mobilised from corporations rose by some G\$13 million.

Excise duties which had been projected to yield G\$53 million fell to G\$39 million. The budget of consumption taxes, import duties and other miscellaneous taxes were G\$86.0 million, G\$37 million and G\$14 million respectively, while their yields amounted to G\$84 million, G\$37 million and G\$4 million.

The Extended Fund Facility

During 1980, the Government renegotiated an Extended Fund Facility with the International Monetary Fund under which the country became eligible to draw resources amounting to G\$300 million over a three-year period.

The Government drew two tranches amounting to G\$117 million in the course of this year. These resources helped considerably in establishing the economy.

The 1981 Budget

Basic Assumptions and Production Desiderata [Targets]

I now state the underlying assumptions and production desiderata which have informed the 1981 Budget. I use the term 'production desiderata' rather than 'targets' because in my conversations with workers and their Trade Union representatives I have noted a measure of misunderstanding of the latter term as used in the Budget.

Trade Unionists tend to confuse the targets set in the Budget with the targets they have negotiated, or hope to negotiate in the course of the year, as the reference point for ascertaining and quantifying certain benefits under their collective agreements.

As used in the Budget, however, the term relates to production and other levels which we as a nation must achieve if we are going to ensure the financial and other outturns projected in the Budget as being desirable and necessary for our economic well-being and progress.

The projections and programmes in the Budget are therefore based squarely on reasonable performances in these sectors and will require the following volumes of output.

Sugar:	310,000 tons
Bauxite	
Calcined:	735,000 tons
Metal Grade:	919,000 tons
Chemical Grade:	400,000 tons
Alumina:	240,000 tons
Other Grades:	40,000 tons
Rice:	217,000 tons

Strong

In the Bauxite Industry also, Guyvine has adopted a set of strong and practical measures to help speed up its return to acceptable levels of production.

It has contracted the services of the Green Construction Corporation to eliminate the lag between stripping and mining, and is collaborating with Maschinen Export-IMK Consulting Enterprise of the German Democratic Republic to acquire the techniques and institute the systems for effective forward planning and mine development.

A contract with Kaiser is designed to help in overcoming the current problems being experienced with the quality of the alumina product; and one with U.S. Steel will increase the efficiency of the calcining operations in the Berbice Operations.

In addition, the Industry will upgrade the efficiency of its ore-handling procedures through the expert assistance of the Austrian firm, Austro-plan; and at the same it will be utilising the services of a well-known firm of auditors, Touche Ross, to revamp its accounting systems and practices with a view to improving its cost efficiency. Simultaneously, the industry will be paying strict regard to the welfare of the bauxite workers.

The special incentive scheme now in place produced high levels of productivity at Kwakwani and Everton last year and should have a similar effect throughout the Industry this year.

Additionally, a fleet of new buses is being acquired to improve the quality of the transportation for workers.

All of these measures, together with the increased availability of spare parts, should enable the industry to maintain the upward production surge which was observed in the last quarter of 1980 and restore the industry's reputation for reliability in meeting its contractual obligations both in quality and volume terms.

The attainment of the production volumes would increase our GDP at factor cost from \$1,370 mn. to \$1,640 mn., representing a real growth of about 7.9 per cent. I stress again, as I did in 1980, that this growth rate is superficially high. We are starting from a relatively low base and we are aiming at levels we have achieved and sometimes /exceeded/ [in boldface] in the fairly recent past. Given careful planning and strong commitment, we can attain and surpass them once more.

Export and Import

On the basis of the production figures considered to be desirable and known to be achievable and the measures being taken to stimulate productivity, merchandise export earnings should reach \$1,316 mn., being an increase of 34 per cent over the relatively low 1980 earnings.

Sugar prices improved last year and, notwithstanding certain difficulties looming on the horizon with imports into the EEC, these prices should remain reasonably favourable. Sugar exports are therefore expected to yield \$402 mn.

Reasonable weather being assumed, rice should contribute \$128 mn., as a result of increased production and increased exports. There is every indication that the Bauxite-Alumina production graph which climbed during the last quarter of 1980 would maintain this trend, and the industry should be as a result of the good markets, earn \$636 mn. [as published]

The real issue in the Bauxite Industry as indeed in the other two major industries is really one of production and exports. The markets are there and the prices are good.

Other exports are projected to earn \$150 mn., an increase of \$30 mn., or 25 per cent over 1980.

All relevant factors having been taken into account, merchandise imports will be budgeted at a value of \$1,325 million.

CSO: 3025

RULING PNC WARNS MEMBERS AGAINST UNAUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Mar 81 p 3

[Text]

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Tuesday, (CANA) — The ruling People's National Congress (PNC) of President, Forbes Burnham has warned its members and supporters against what it called "unwarranted interference and pressures" in affairs of the state.

The PNC statement published in the state Press here was issued by Cammie Ramsaroop, Vice-President responsible for Parliamentary Affairs and state and party relations.

In it he said that one of the main functions of his ministry was "to ensure that the ambit of party and state are clearly demarcated and that either one does not encroach upon the rights and prerogatives of the other."

The Vice-President explained that this implied "that members or supporters of the party could not go about pretending to use the name of the party, its prestige or authority as their whim or fancy dictate".

The statement added: "No member or supporter of the party could go about interfering or trying to bring pressures on individuals or institutions in the name of the party. Such things may sometimes have happened in the past. Now, there would never be any such occurrences again."

"If the party wants to indicate a policy or position to any state organ or institution, such would be done on the authority of the ministry", Mr. Ramsaroop declared.

He also warned, "If any member or supporter of the party attempts to usurp such authority and to cause distress and confusion which such usurpation would bring, he or she would be very effectively disciplined."

"Members of the public or institutions which may have cause to complain of such unwarranted interference and pressures are invited to bring their complaints to the ministry", he advised.

CNO: 3025

BRIEFS

ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR--Georgetown, Guyana, Sunday (CANAL)--Ignacio Esteban Pico Estrada, has taken up his post here as the first resident Argentine Ambassador to Guyana following the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in October 1972. Mr. Estrada is presenting his credentials to Vice-President Desmond Hoyte, said his presence in Georgetown was "a tangible expression of the wish of the Argentine Government to give a new dynamic to our bilateral relations." [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 16 Mar 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025

SEAGA SPEAKS TO HOUSE ON FOREIGN CAPITAL, OTHER ISSUES

Kingston THE DAILY CLEANER in English 21 Mar 81 p 13

[Text]

"We have no apology to offer ... because we have a mandate to deal with unemployment," the Prime Minister told the House in closing the debate on the First Supplementary Estimates 1980/81.

Mr. Seaga said that in order to provide sufficient jobs to control and decrease unemployment, investments were required. He said there were only two sources of investments - foreign and local.

"When you pool domestic (local) investments you can only provide a certain level of growth. It will not control much less reduce unemployment," the Prime Minister said.

No such thing

He said that there was no such thing as Russian, or Cuban or American investments, there was only foreign and local (domestic).

Mr. Seaga said that only countries with surplus capital were in a position to afford foreign investments and without such investments there cannot be growth and development in Jamaica.

"I have no hesitation in accepting the course we have chosen. If there are Third World countries or Communist friends who want to assist, we will set up the mechanism to deal with them," the Prime Minister said.

"From whatever source it comes, as long as it can provide the necessary benefits, this government welcomes it," he added.

Mr. Seaga said that the job of his government was to remove stagnation and release the force of motivation.

Civil Service

Speaking on the Civil Service, Prime Minister Seaga said that Civil Servants had been harassed and requested to submit to the ideology which was being advocated by the previous government.

He said that the last government had failed to advance any programme for training civil servants despite the fact that he had recommended during his previous tenure that a training college should be established.

All that came of that, the Prime Minister said, was an ad hoc arrangement for certain courses with

no serious attention paid to proper training.

He said that some arms of the Civil Service had been publicly discredited and forced to go underground by the previous government, and some civil servants even became martyrs in the course of defending the integrity of the public service.

Mr. Seaga noted the appointment of what he said were an impartial Public Services and Police Services Commissions since his government came to power.

He noted that one week after he had taken office in November, a prominent senior civil servant who had left the service for the private sector because of harassment, had informed him that he was willing to forego his substantial salary in the private sector to resume "the work we started".

Laudable

Speaking on food and production, Mr. Seaga said it was a laudable fact that every country wished to feed itself, but he said that in following that line of thinking, the previous Government had ignored two basic points that

there was an inability to produce certain things, and that there was an inability to produce certain things at a cost which the local consumers could afford.

"We must produce, but at reasonable prices," Mr. Seaga said. "I am convinced that if we sow wheat it would grow and if we sent out boats to catch mackerel we would catch some, but at what price?"

He said that the Black River Upper Moram Development Project had 10,000 acres to grow rice, but it could not grow rice at a cheaper price than it could be imported. "So we have to grow something that we can sell abroad to obtain the foreign exchange to buy the rice at a cheaper price," the Prime Minister said.

False hopes

"Our policy is to produce what we can produce best and to produce the agricultural goods that we can sell to purchase the goods that we can buy at cheaper rates from abroad."

"Speeches and words to trigger response and give some people false hopes

had their time to flourish but wiser leaders is arising in countries which have been through that experience," Mr. Seaga said. [as published]

"It is time we wake up to the harsh reality that there is both consumers and producers who must be provided for." [as published]

Speaking on claims by the PNP's spokesmen that an attempt was made to have the nation feed itself, Mr. Seaga said "History will show that this country has never been so underfed as in the past eight and a half years."

Speaking on his government's intention to raise the levels of rural grocery distribution to what they used to be, Mr. Seaga said: "One thing that this government has undertaken to do is to relieve the farmer's personal distress of going to the (grocery) shop and finding nothing to eat."

CSO: 3025

GOVERNMENT TEACHING FACILITIES USED TO SPREAD COMMUNISM

Kingston THE DAILY CLEANER in English 20 Mar 81 p 7

[Text]

The view that "employees of Government teaching institutions who use the facilities of those institutions and their work time to propagate Communism, should be relieved of their posts", has been expressed by the Principal of the Jamaica School of Agriculture, Dr. Patrick Bennett.

In an address delivered at the recently-held Founders' Day Service, sponsored by the St. Catherine Chapter of the JSA Old Students' Association, at the Phillipa Baptist Church in Spanish Town, Dr. Bennett said:

"We must resist every attempt, whether open or subtle, to use Government's training institutions as breeding grounds for Communism or any other form of anti-Christ ideology", he told the gathering of worshippers, old farmers and past JSA graduates.

Dr. Bennett, who spoke on the topic, "The Only

Foundation", based on 1 Corinthians 3:11, said that while many who listened might accept the quotation, "For no other Foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ", there were others who did not accept this as indisputable fact. One such group was the Communist. There were, he said, "those who will tell you that the only foundation is that which is laid by Marx and Lenin."

"I would like to say to all those who are involved in training our young Jamaicans, that while we respect the right of every individual to their personal philosophical or ideological beliefs, we must resist every attempt whether subtle or open to use Government's training institutions as breeding grounds for communism or any other form of anti-Christ ideology."

"Many parents send their sons and daughters to study agriculture, nutrition, education, engineering, etc. When they leave home they are active participants in their church,

(some are even the sons and daughters of ministers); but by the time they have sat at the feet of the local Marx, many return to heart-breaks of their parents."

He further pointed out that it was his view that wherever it is objectively established that individuals or groups of individuals who are employed by the said Government institution are using the facilities of the institution or the government's time to propagate Communism, then such persons should be relieved of their posts at the institution, because parents send their children to study a profession, not an anti-Christ ideology.

In inviting the present and past students to emulate the examples of the J.S.A. founding fathers, Dr. Bennett urged them to copy four characteristics of those men — service to their communities, commitment to their jobs, sacrifice for the country and love for the concern of the humanity they served.

BRIEFS

NATIONAL EMERGENCY CENTER--The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Relief Co-ordination is to establish a national emergency centre which will take action before, during and after a disaster as well as co-ordinate responses during national emergencies. This was part of a plan outlined by the Director of the ODP, Mr. Franklyn McDonald, which he said was aimed at helping the country prepare for national disasters. Other aspects of the proposal announced by Mr. McDonald include the formation of a national disaster plan by June 1 which will incorporate plans from each parish, all the Ministries, the essential services, the major private sector companies and from voluntary organisations. The ODP will also be mounting a public awareness campaign as well as training programmes for officials from government agencies. Speaking on the need for these measures, Mr. McDonald said he was not satisfied that the country had the institutional capacity to cope with all possible eventualities. A cursory examination of the recent fire in Montego Bay and the oil spill at Alligator Pond would indicate that "our civil systems to prepare for disasters were not adequate", he said. He remarked that of all the parishes, Kingston and St. Andrew were the only ones which did not have a disaster committee, stating that Kingston had the greatest history of disaster effects. All other parishes had disaster committees although they were not as active as one would like, he said. [Excerpts] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 12 Mar 81 p 5]

CROP THEFT CRACKDOWN--Kingston, Jamaica, Saturday, (CANA)--Jamaica is planning tough new legislation to deal with the high incidence of praedial larceny here which was proving to be a disincentive to farmers, Agriculture Minister, Percival Broderick says. Government's plans include establishment of Special Constable units to patrol farming districts, as well as for the revamping of trespass and the larceny laws and the Praedial Larceny (Prevention) Act, Dr. Broderick said. He noted that praedial thieves received mild punishment which failed to act as a deterrent. Under proposed changes, the Trespass Act would be widened to include not only enclosed or cultivated land, but also land used for rearing livestock and poultry. It would also give the powers of civil arrest to citizens who caught others committing offences under the Trespass and Larceny Acts. [Excerpts] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 15 Mar 81 p 3]

SEAGA ON MEDIA POLICY--The Government's media policy is designed to ensure that the public media never again falls into the hands of persons who will distort its purpose. This was indicated by Prime Minister Edward Seaga, Friday night, at the annual GLEANER Awards Banquet at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, New Kingston. Mr. Seaga, said Government had decided to divest itself of the newspaper, THE JAMAICA

DAILY NEWS because government did not wish to abuse the authority given as a mandate by the people by holding a portion of the public media which it could use to influence opinion. He said: "We would not be fulfilling either that policy or the target that we have set for ourselves, if we were to use the authority which has been given to us as a mandate by the people, not to fulfil certain things but to use that authority in a manner which would limit the power of the people". For this reason the decision had been made to divest itself of the DAILY NEWS. Mr. Seaga said that with the divestment, government would not hold a portion of the public media which, in print, they could use to influence opinion, but rather to leave this to private opinion. This meant the establishment of a media committee which would be impartially appointed to oversee the public media "so that the area Government will retain as the public media will never again fall into the hands of persons who will distort its purpose". It was the government's wish that in the course of their tenure, they would be able to bring influence to bear on the other areas of the media, publicly and privately owned, to rise to the same height of achievement as the GLEANER had made, in its distinction, to the career of the media in Jamaica, he said. [Excerpts] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 23 Mar 81 pp 1, 11]

BAUXITE EARNINGS--Jamaica's earnings from the Bauxite Production Levy increased by U.S. \$15 million last year, over 1979--from U.S. \$194 million to U.S. \$209 million. Revenue was earned on a production of just over 12 million (metric) tonnes of bauxite, 4.2 per cent ahead of the 11.5 million tonnes produced in 1979. Shipments of unprocessed ore fell 15.5 per cent, from 6.4 million to 6.1 million tonnes. However, a sharp increase in locally-processed bauxite at the Alpart and Alcan refineries led to alumina exports of 2.39 million tonnes in 1980, which was 15 per cent higher than the 2.07 million tonnes exported the previous year. Total bauxite production, as well as alumina export, were the highest since Jamaica's record performance of 1974 when total bauxite was 15.1 million tonnes and alumina exports, 2.8 million tonnes. The entire 6.1 million tonnes of bauxite exported went to the United States of America. Alumina shipments went to the following regions: Europe and USSR - 61.2%, North America - 27.3%, Africa - 7.8%, Latin America - 2.4%, Other 1.4%. [Text] [Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 8 Mar 81 p 1]

FOOD DISTRIBUTION--Government is to institute a food policy which will provide for regular and sufficient supplies of basic foods, wider distribution, and at prices that will benefit the consumer because of availability, creating competition. A priority towards achieving this is to rebuild the stock of shops from its present level of 12,000 to the 23,000 in 1974 and to further increase the stock to 30,000. Industry and Commerce Minister, the Hon. Douglas Vaz, announced this in the House of Representatives on Tuesday evening in his contribution to the 1980/81 Supplementary Estimates debate. He said that while the number of shops had dwindled so had the wholesale outlets from 160 in 1974 to 112. He said that efforts will be made to get them back in the system. Dealing with supplies and the availability of basic foods, the Minister said over the past few years there had been a phenomenal black market in the system. So bad it was, that a survey was done on over-charging at all levels where it prevailed and it showed that certain shops were charging up to \$3 for a box of soap powder which is controlled at \$1. He said that price increases have become almost an emotional thing. Baby food which was controlled at \$3 per tin was fetching prices such as \$10 per tin. He said, however, that he could understand this for baby foods were not on the shelves for over one year. [Excerpts] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 81 p 1]

MINERAL SPRING DEVELOPMENT--A team of West German consultants working in collaboration with the Jamaica Tourist Board and the Mining Ministry has concluded that there are at least ten mineral springs in Jamaica with great potential for development. Professor Jaap Pothast, project supervisor, and Professor Hans Gockel, chemical

specialists, yesterday made a final report on the quality of the springs to Minister of State for Tourism, Hon. Dr. Marco Brown, at the New Kingston Hotel. The ten streams studied were: two at Sans Souci, Ocho Rios; Spring Garden, Montego Bay; Windsor Spring, St. Ann's Bay; Buxton Spring, Westmoreland; Black River, St. Elizabeth; Milk River Spring and Milk River Bath, Clarendon; Rockford Bath, St. Andrew and Bath Spring, St. Thomas. Professor Pothast is of the opinion that some of the springs have thermal and mineral value. There were some which contained pure water making them important for curative purposes, he added. Dr. Franklyn McDonald, Chairman of the Mineral Development Commission, speaking at a news conference yesterday said the analytic work and inventory of springs was the first step in the project which would now develop with bilateral funding. Speaking of the Rockfort Mineral Bath, the professor said it was a valuable spring, strategically placed to serve the metropolitan city of Kingston and its environs, but he said there was fear of pollution from the nearby cement factory. [Excerpts] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025

FOREIGN MINISTER D'ESCOTO PRAISES BRAZILIAN STAND ON WALTER'S TRIP

PY190212 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Mar 81 p 8

[Article by J. B. Natali]

[Text] Paris--Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto has termed "extremely dignifying" the Brazilian government's cool reception of Gen Vernon Walters, Reagan's envoy charged with securing Latin American solidarity with the U.S. charges that Salvadoran guerrillas have been reportedly receiving arms through Nicaragua.

"Brazil," d'Escoto told the FOLHA correspondent, "had assumed a praiseworthy position even before the 17th meeting of OAS foreign ministers. A few months ago, I had the opportunity of personally expressing my thanks to Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro in Brasilia. The Brazilian government has demonstrated its confidence in the projects of the Sandinist revolution by opening lines of credits to us."

Therefore, Father d'Escoto said that he was not surprised over the fact that Brazil rejected the U.S. pressures.

At the end of our short conversation, he diplomatically pretended not to hear me when I asked him about the supply of arms to Managua when General Somoza's dictatorship was beginning to collapse.

CSO: 3001

PSD SUPPORTS MISURASATA, DEMANDS FAGOTH'S RELEASE

Managua LA PRENSA in English 17 Mar 81 p 5

[Text] Pronouncement from the Social Democratic Party (PSD) in Respect to the MISURASATAS's Case

To the People of Nicaragua:

The Social Democratic Party (PSD) has been observing with deep concern the strong repressive action displayed by the Sandinista Government against MISURASATA and its leaders. In relation to the case of Stedman Fagoth Muller, we take the liberty of expressing the following:

1. As is well known, Mr Fagoth Muller holds the position of Representative before the Council of State in behalf of MISURASATA. This position, according to the revolutionary laws in effect, endows him with legal immunity; that is, he cannot be made prisoner unless a previous special procedure has been realized to that effect. Nevertheless, Fagoth Muller was arrested by members of the State Security, violating said laws, and making this an arbitrary action, observed only under totalitarian dictatorships of the extreme right or extreme left.
2. We have knowledge that Mr Fagoth Muller as a MISURASATA representative had introduced for the consideration of the Sandinista Front a series of legitimate claims from his organization and his regional constituency. Among these land distribution to the natives of the Atlantic Coast, and participation in the election of the regional and local authorities. In answer to his petition Fagoth Muller was jailed together with many other leaders from Bluefields, Puerto Cabezas and other native communities in that part of the country.
3. It is indeed a very questionable thing the fact that, as long as MISURASATA had been following a line agreeable with the Sandinista Front--an attitude which favored their being taken into account when the Council of State was restructured--none of its leaders, nor the organization itself, were bothered by the authorities. But at the moment that they began claiming their rights--and in spite that the authorities have had in their hands the Security files since July 19, 1979--they were charged with having belonged to that sinister organization and of endorsing separatist purposes.

4. We find some contradictions in the declarations made by the Director of the States Security, Commander Lenin Cerna, as for example, when he declares in reference to the "PLAN 81" that the MISURASATA leadership intended to establish its own Government in the form of an Old Men's Council which would be in charge of dictating all the laws in the New State. Cerna, however, declares contradictorily that said people were going to demand that one of their members be appointed to the Government Junta of National Reconstruction (JGRN) and that the number of their representatives before the Council of State, be increased from one to five. How can this incongruity be explained?

In respect to the Atlantic Coast, the MISURASATA and the Sandinista Government, the Social Democratic Party (PSD) states that:

A. Due to the isolation and total neglect in which the Atlantic Coast has been living since the last century, we felt very pleased at the founding MISURASATA, since we deem necessary the existence of an organization integrated by elements autochthonous to that region, which could watch over the legitimate interest of its population. Many agreements previously signed were never respected, for example, "La Convencion Miskita" and the 1905 Harrison-Altamirano Treaty. In said Treaty the central Government pledged itself for 50 years to reinvest, for the benefit of the people of the Atlantic Coast, all taxes therefrom collected. It must be pointed out that during the first decades of this century the Atlantic Coast contributed to the expenses of the national Government by giving up their riches which were exploited (banana, timber, minerales, etc.) without its people ever having had substantial participation in benefits from those riches.

8. With the triumph of the Nicaraguan Revolution, the Government Junta for National Reconstruction and the Sandinista Front for National Liberation gave great expectations for the authentic reincorporation of the Atlantic Coast, even calling her: The Awakening Giant. Now that the Giant is Awakening and not willing to be manipulated by political projects which are not in accordance with her ideosyncrasies and aspirations, a negative campaign has been launched against those who claim their longly postergated rights. [numbering and paragraph as published]

C. With great concern we observe that the Central Government has the purpose--we do not know with what intentions--of promoting divisionism in the Atlantic Coast; no analysis is made of the grounds for the demands, nor a solution sought for but instead the leaders are charged as separationists and suffer repression. According to our view, those who act in this manner are causing an irreparable harm to the Country, for they are indirectly promoting an idea which we are sure is not agreeable to the dignified people of the Atlantic Coast.

D. We are also highly concerned by the violent and repressive actions undertaken by the Sandinista Government against the members of this organization, their offices and facilities: actions in which many people are being harmed without reason. We believe that only despotic regimes (fascists and communists) act in accordance to those procedures which are totally apart from the democratic principles that the conductors of this revolutionary process claim to endorse.

Conclusions:

In view of the above, the Social Democratic Party (PSD), which strives for a Revolution in Freedom, proposes:

1. That the National Reconstruction Government Junta (JGRN) rectify the error committed, by ordering the freedom of Mr Stedman Fagoth Muller; and that, in case the charges made against him could be proved beyond reasonable doubt, the procedure should be carried out in a manner which would be consistent with his condition as a representative of the council of State.
2. That a halt be put to the persecution launched by the authorities against the MISURASATA organization and its leaders, since this attitude has already occasioned fraternal bloodshedding and could lead to confrontations of unpredictable consequences.
3. That the Sandinista Government Authorities and the public communications media at their disposal cease qualifying every claim emanating from the Atlantic Coast as separatist, and that when these problems arise, a solution be sought in accordance to the interest proper to the Atlantic Coast in particular, and to the Nation in general. [as published]
4. That the demands made by MISURASATA be seriously considered, since we consider them fair, to the best of our knowledge, and that a revision be made of the cases of those who are still being held in prison as a result of the demonstrations effected in Bluefields the 30th of September 1980.

Managua, February 25, 1981.

Social Democratic Party (PSD)

CSO: 3020

BRIEFS

ELECTRICITY RATE INCREASE--Kingstown, St. Vincent, Wednesday, (CANA)--The people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines will have to pay more for electricity retroactive to February 1, it was announced here. This judgement was handed down by Mr. Justice J. D. B. Renwick, arbitrator in a dispute between Government and the St. Vincent Electricity Company. The company had requested of Government a 3.5 per cent increase in the unit rate, but Government had refused, saying the company deserved half a cent per unit increase. The matter was referred to the court for settlement. Mr. Justice Renwick said that his decision was subject to the constraints of existing legislation, namely the Electricity Supply Act of 1973. "The provisions are clear, precise and unambiguous, so that any shortcomings will have to be, and can only be, remedied by legislative action. This is a matter beyond my competence and jurisdiction", Justice Renwick said. "Bearing constantly in mind all the evidence led before me, the agreements arrived at by the parties and the existing legislation, I hereby award--not without some reluctance I must add--the increases sought by the company with immediate effect". [Excerpt] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 12 Mar 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025

OPPOSITION PARTIES AGREE TO FIELD SINGLE CANDIDATES

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 10 Mar 81 p 3

[Text]

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Monday, (CANA) — Three of Trinidad and Tobago's opposition parties have decided not to compete against each other during the next general election, expected to be held later this year, opposition sources said today.

The three — the official Opposition United Labour Front (ULF), the Democratic Action Congress (DAC) and the Tapia House Movement (THM) — will together be fielding no more than one candidate for each constituency according to Alloy Lequay, a politician who attended the talks.

The decision was reached during protracted discussions — started months ago — on the formation of a coalition to try to topple the 25-year-old administration of Prime Minister Eric Williams and his People's National Party (PNP) at the polls.

The three parties will face the electorate as separate entities, said Lequay, whose Borough Action Team (BAT) was, however, not a party to the plan.

The ULF has strongholds in the sugar belt. It has as its industrial arm the all-Trinidad

Sugar and General Workers Trade Union of Opposition Leader Basdeo Pandey.

The DAC controls the Tobago House of Assembly, while the Tapia House Movement is yet to establish itself, having lost all its deposits in preceding elections.

Lequay stated that the three parties will collaborate in a programme of voter-registration aimed at heightening voter interest and assisting voters in securing their rights.

The parties have been holding discussions since mid-last year, when the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) of Karl Hudson-Phillips was the only opposition party to contest local government elections.

The National Joint Action Committee (NJAC) of Geddes Granger, which was involved in the talks, will be contesting the elections on its own.

So too will the ONR, while two other political parties — the National Freedom Party of lawyer Ramdeo Sampat Mehta and the People's Progressive Movement of trade union activist Michael Ali — will also face the electorate as separate groups.

FEDCHEM STRIKE HAVING BROAD ECONOMIC RAMIFICATIONS

Shortage of Fertilizer

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 9 Mar 81 p 3

[Text]

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, Sunday, (CANA) — Trinidad and Tobago's state-owned sugar producing company, Caroni Limited, has become a casualty of a protracted strike by 425 employees of the multi-million dollar fertiliser-producing plant Federation Chemicals.

Caroni has run out of fertiliser and the producers said they were unable to meet requests for further deliveries — Caroni spokesman said.

Late application of the fertilisers, identified as sulphate of ammonia and nitrogen, would cut back production by about ten tonnes per acre of sugarcane, the spokesman said.

The company's average yield for the 1980 sugar crop was 22 60 tonnes of cane an acre.

Since the strike, the official stated, Caroni Limited has not

received deliveries of fertiliser. The company needs 10 000 tonnes of sulphate of ammonia, which it is seeking to import from markets outside of the region.

Caroni has set its production target at 151 430 tonnes of sugar this year.

There has been no progress in settling the pay dispute. The Ministry of Labour is still contemplating whether it should invoke again Section 65 of the Industrial Relations Act and order the workers back to their jobs.

Since December 9, the workers have been off their jobs, protesting the company's delay in granting a 50 per cent wage increase. The company's offer remains at 33 per cent and it has also refused to be nationalised, another demand of the striking workers.

Nationalization Push

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 12 Mar 81 p 3

[Text]

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Wednesday, (CANA) — The petro-chemical industry in Trinidad and Tobago may soon be localised through the insistence of the powerful Oilfield Workers Trade Union, which represents the majority of workers in the industry.

An official from the Ministry of Legal Affairs indicated yesterday that the government was pursuing lines similar to those preceding the localisation

of banks, insurance firms and firms dealing in trading.

The petrochemical industry is now torn by a strike which has caused closure of the Federation Chemicals Corporation (FEDCHEM) operations. Its 425 workers are involved in a pay dispute, and a strong union demand is that the enterprise be nationalised.

The official disclosed that due to the localisation of insurance companies and other financial

institutions, and the fact that unit trust legislation will shortly be introduced in Parliament, it had been agreed by the minister responsible for the petrochemical industries, that steps be taken in the divestment process of shares in state enterprises, and for enterprises in the productive sectors to conform to the localisation guidelines established by government.

At a meeting yesterday the official said, it was agreed that priority attention be given to companies which had already indicated to government that they were willing to hold discussions with the state about nationalisation of their enterprises.

Federation Chemicals, Trinidad Texaco Incorporated and Tesoro Oil Company's share of the jointly-owned Trinidad

Tesoro are the three major companies said to have so indicated.

Workers at the three companies are represented at union level by the Oilfield Workers Trade Union, and all three are currently involved in labour disputes with that union.

Federation Chemicals has been closed since December 7, because of failure to agree on a three-year wage contract. The OWTU is asking for 50 per cent increase while the company is offering 33 per cent.

Negotiations between the union and Texaco have been going on since last November, while the OWTU continues to attack Trinidad-Tesoro for alleged failure to provide proper and sanitary working conditions for its employees both inland and offshore.

BRIEFS

CANE GROWING REFORM--San Fernando: Trinidad Islandwide Canefarmers Association (TICFA) has seen the proposed restructuring of the sugar industry as the logical final step in the decolonisation of sugar--a policy which TICFA had consistently advocated, and which is recorded in its reservations of the Sugar Rationalisation Committee report. The association has come out openly for the first time to make a statement on the Rampersad Report for the proposed restructuring of the sugar industry. TICFA speaks of a plan for Agrarian Reform and said that in other countries such as Mexico, a revolution had to be fought in order to bring about Agrarian Reform. In Trinidad, there was the restructuring in a manner in which none would suffer, the association said. "It added: "If this restructuring is carried out, we will then join the band of countries--Fiji, India, Indonesia, Australia, etc.--where all the canes are produced by independent growers. [as published] "We see the proposed restructuring as a logical final step in the decolonisation of sugar, a policy which TICFA had consistently advocated." The Association said that it welcomed the proposals being discussed regarding the restructuring of the sugar industry. It was pointed out that sugar workers had been forced to accept what had been handed down to them over the years, not only wages and fringe benefits, but also poor working conditions. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 9 Mar 81 p 6]

FOOD WAREHOUSE FIRE--Trinidad Food Products' (Nestle) plant is supplying condensed milk "as usual" and is also continuing to collect fresh milk at the Valsayn plant. According to Mr David Allsebrook, Managing Director of the company, production of condensed milk was re-started on the evening of the day of the fire which destroyed the company's packaging warehouse and another warehouse with raw materials. Mr Allsebrook said: "We are making urgent stop-gap arrangements for the U.H.T. products to ensure there is no severe shortage." [as published] U.H.T. products are those in the soft packs whose paper stacks were wiped out in the fire. The company's other products, Milo and Nescafe have not been affected. The fire which took place on Tuesday is estimated to have caused \$12 million in damages. The jobs of the 400 workers have not been affected since the company plans to allocate some of them to other areas in the plant. Arrangements are being made to have Tetra paper, in which U.H.T. products are stored, brought in from Sweden within the next two weeks. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 12 Mar 81 p 4]

WORKERS DEMONSTRATION--Working class barriers were temporarily forgotten when Parliament vibrated to the largest protest demonstration ever yesterday. Approximately 7,000 teachers, sugar workers and striking workers of Federal Chemicals

limited electrified the area bordering the Red House, with a spirited display of their anger over a number of issues. The action cut deep into the country's educational system, sugar production and, to a lesser extent, fertiliser producing activities since Fedchem workers have been off their jobs for more than three months. Although organised by separate organisations, the demonstrators at various stages forgot their particular causes and blended their protest chants in a symbolic show of unity. The action coincided with the opening of the House of Representatives after an adjournment of 11 weeks and for the teachers it was of special importance. Teachers were brought out by the Trinidad and Tobago Unified Teachers Association (TTUTA) in another show of solidarity in their struggle for recognition as the sole bargaining body for the teaching fraternity. Inside the House, legislators were debating a Bill dealing with amendments to the Education Act, which, in essence, has provisions for one majority union--TTUTA's main objective. [By Clevon Raphael] [Excerpts] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 12 Mar 81 p 1]

TRADE WITH ZIMBABWE--Trinidad and Tobago has lifted a 15-year trade embargo against Zimbabwe, imposed when ex-Premier Ian Smith unilaterally declared independence from Britain in 1965. President Ellis Clarke proclaimed the lifting of the ban on February 26, but the announcement was made by the Trade Ministry last night. Trade official, Felix Thomas, said the lifting of the trade embargo gave Trinidadians another opportunity to explore cheaper avenues for commodities. Mr Thomas could not indicate just which products Trinidad and Tobago would be importing, but said clothing, canned goods and minerals were possibilities. As for exports to Zimbabwe, Thomas suggested Trinidad and Tobago may be able to sell Zimbabwe handicraft and cement as well as supplying some trained manpower. [Excerpts] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 5 Mar 81 p 4]

SHIPPING MONOPOLY--Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Tuesday, (CANA)--The Trinidad and Tobago Government has said it will be channelling all the haulage business of state corporations, including the big iron and steel works, into a nationally-owned shipping line. The Iron and Steel Company of Trinidad and Tobago (ISCOTT) is the centre-piece of massive industrial developments in the south of this island. A Government announcement said that the freighting of imports and exports of ISCOTT and other state corporations would be directed towards the Shipping Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (SCOTT). SCOTT was begun in 1977 as a joint enterprise owned by the Government and a foreign group, Seatrain Shipping Line. However, the Government has since acquired all the shares. Already, the company is providing services to the Trinidad and Tobago National Petroleum Company Limited, and the Iron and Steel Company. A SCOTT spokesman told CANA his corporation was aiming to handle about 40 per cent of all freight into and out of Trinidad and Tobago, and had requested that Government introduce legislation to help ensure the target is achieved. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Mar 81 p 3]

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BRIEFS

STATE ENTERPRISES--Caracas, 17 Mar (AFP)--It was officially announced here today that the Venezuelan state is offering 39 enterprises for sale to private hands. The Venezuelan Development Corporation gave details of the enterprises for sale and the financing conditions for their acquisition. Most of the enterprises on sale are sugar mills, milk processing and textile industries, hotels and tourist centers. The government decided to sell them because they are not strategic enterprises and represent losses for the treasury. [PA312152 Paris AFP in Spanish 1538 GMT 17 Mar 81]

OPEC PRODUCTION--Caracas, 19 Mar (EFE)--A report issued by the Venezuelan Energy and Mines Ministry disclosed today that the world oil production dropped in 1980 by 2.031 million barrels per day. The total world production in 1980 was 61.014 million barrels per day of which OPEC produced 26.803 million barrels per day. This grand total of the OPEC, 43.9 percent of the world's production, represented a daily drop of 4.125 million barrels in relation to 1979. [PA312152 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2312 GMT 19 Mar 81]

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